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NAKASONE TO LIMIT DEFENSE TO 1 PERCENT OF GNP

OW301031 Tokyo KYODO in English 1020 GMT 30 Oct 85

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 30 KYODO -- Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone promised Wednesday to hold down defense spending below 1 percent of gross national product in fiscal 1986, the first year of a new five-year defense buildup program.

As a result of Nakasone's promise, opposition parties called off a half-day boycott of Diet business. The prime minister told the lower house Budget Committee the government will respect the opinion of the Diet over the defense budget. Nakasone's ruling Liberal-Democratic Party had a series of backstage talks with the Japan Socialist Party and Komeito, the two major opposition groups, about receiving [as received] the session, political sources said.

The opposition camp had pressed the government over discrepancies between the new five-year defense buildup program, which called for spending above 1 percent of GNP, and a 1976 cabinet decision which set the ceiling on defense budgets. The defense program calls for spending 18.4 trillion yen between fiscal 1986 and 1990 or nearly 1.04 percent of estimated GNP for the period.

The Socialist and Komeito Parties boycotted the session from early Wednesday morning, demanding that Nakasone pledge to maintain the 1 percent ceiling on defense spending. The government puts the fiscal 1985 defense budget at 3,137.1 billion yen, just below the 1-percent-of-GNP ceiling, and the revised GNP estimate for fiscal 1986, ending next March 31, at 321.4 trillion yen.

RECORD HALF-YEAR CURRENT ACCOUNT SURPLUS POSTED

OW300921 Tokyo KYODO in English 0903 GMT 30 Oct 85

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 30 KYODO -- Backed by favorable exports to the United States and China, Japan showed a record half-year current account surplus of 26.6 billion dollars before seasonal adjustments in the first half of fiscal 1985, the Finance Ministry said in a preliminary report Wednesday.

Japan's exports to the U.S. rose 7.2 percent in the April September period from a year ago and those to China doubled to produce the record current account surplus, which exceeded the previous high of 18.7 billion dollars in the same period of 1984 fiscal year. The trade account also posted a semiannual record surplus of 29.3 billion dollars, compared with the previous high of 23.1 billion dollars in the same period a year ago, the report said. Exports hit a record high of 86.7 billion dollars, up 1.6 percent from last year's previous high of 85.3 billion dollars. Imports, however, declined 7.6 percent from a year ago to 57.4 billion dollars on slackened imports of crude oil, nonferrous metals, lumber and other primary goods.

The long-term capital transactions in the first half hit a record deficit of 35.7 billion dollars, compared with the previous record deficit of 27.5 billion dollars in the October-March period of fiscal 1984. Portfolio investments by foreign nations in the April-September period hit a record high deficit of 42.5 billion dollars, exceeding the previous record of 34.0 billion dollars in the previous six months.

The basic balance of payments showed a deficit of 9.1 billion dollars and the overall balance of payments also a red-ink figure of 6.7 billion dollars.

The Finance Ministry also said Japan's current account surplus widened to the third highest monthly figure of unadjusted 4.88 billion dollars in September, compared with 3.49 billion dollars in August. The trade surplus marked the fourth highest figure of 5.27 billion dollars, compared with 4.38 billion dollars in the previous month. September exports rose 1.9 percent from a year ago to 14.61 billion dollars while imports also edged up 1.0 percent to 9.34 billion dollars.

The long-term capital flow deficit in September shrank to 3.11 billion dollars from 6.53 billion dollars in the red in August, the report said.

The basic balance swung to the black for the first time since last February, scoring the fifth highest monthly figure of 1.78 billion dollars, compared with August's 3.03 billion dollars in the red.

2 EMPLOYEES IN BEIRUT EMBASSY KIDNAPPED

OW300023 Tokyo KYODO in English 0014 GMT 30 Oct 85

[Text] Nicosia, Cyprus, Oct. 29 KYODO -- Two Lebanese employees at the Japanese Embassy in Beirut were kidnapped in the Lebanese capital by three armed men Tuesday, according to a report from the embassy. The two employees are brothers, 36 and 31, who are Greek Orthodox Church believers living in East Beirut, the embassy report said. Spellings of their names are not available yet. The elder brother works at the embassy as a driver and the younger brother as a clerk.

The two were kidnapped by the three armed men aboard a jeep when the two crossed the line from East Beirut into West Beirut on their way to the embassy Tuesday morning. Considering the situation of the kidnapping, this may not be a crime aimed at the Japanese Embassy, First Secretary Hideki Shimazaki of the embassy said. The kidnapped men may have been involved in a conflict between Islamic and Christian groups, he said.

Shunji Nishimura, charge d'affaires at the Japanese Embassy, is contacting with the Lebanese Foreign Ministry and security authorities as well as Islamic militia organizations in West Beirut to confirm their safety and seek their early release, the report said.

In Lebanon, U.S. and French diplomats and journalists have been kidnapped so far [sentence as received]. On September 30, four members of the Soviet Embassy in Beirut were kidnapped and one of them was killed. But this was the first kidnapping involving staff of the Japanese Embassy in Beirut.

U.S. REQUEST FOR PLYWOOD TARIFF CUTS REFUSED

OW291321 Tokyo KYODO in English 1255 GMT 29 Oct 85

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 29 KYODO -- The United States Tuesday asked Japan to advance the date of tariff reduction on plywood by one year to next April, but met a firm refusal. The U.S. warned that Japan's refusal to quicken the liberalization of its market for forest products could become the next target of protectionist legislation in the U.S. Congress, government sources said. The occasion was the one-day sub-cabinet level meeting on Japan's wood product imports from the U.S., held here at the Foreign Ministry. The U.S. even went so far as to say that a series of sub-cabinet level talks between the two countries on four Japanese import sectors -- telecommunications equipment, computers, forest products, and medical equipment and drugs -- held since January this year, will in effect come to nothing unless the plywood problem is solved, the sources said.

Thus the U.S. called for a one-year advancement of the tariff cut date for the present, prior to the eventual elimination of the tariff. But Japan rejected the demand, pointing to a slump in the domestic demand for wood products and a prolonged stagnation in the forest industry.

Among other topics taken up Tuesday were improvement of the Japanese agricultural standards (JAS) and the domestic distribution setup, which are criticized by the U.S. as barriers to U.S. wood product exports. The two sides agreed to hold talks again in line with an agreement between Tokyo and Washington to strive to conclude sub-cabinet level negotiations on the four sectors by the end of this year.

REFINERS CAUTIOUS ABOUT ALASKAN OIL DECISION

OW291237 Tokyo KYODO in English 1223 GMT 29 Oct 85

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 29 KYODO -- Japanese oil refiners, although basically welcoming President Ronald Reagan's decision Monday to lift an export ban on Alaska's Cook Inlet oil, are nevertheless cautious about whether imports on a commercial basis would be possible. Spokesmen for Nippon Oil Co., Idemitsu Kosan Co. and Mitsubishi Oil Co., said that whether they will import Cook Inlet oil will hinge upon negotiations, because it remains to be seen if commercially competitive prices and quantities are obtainable. The general belief in the oil industry is that Cook Inlet oil will be costlier than oil imported from other sources, since Alaskan Governor William Sheffield reportedly said there is no reason to sell Alaskan oil at lower prices than those for the domestic market.

However, oil refiners basically hailed President Reagan's decision as "contributory to diversifying oil supply sources and thus spreading the involved in oil imports," as Yasuoki Takeuchi, president of Nippon Oil, put it. President Reagan's decision was also hailed by the Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI) and the Natural Resources and Energy Agency. They said that import of Alaskan oil will make a significant contribution to not only diversifying oil supply sources in the interests of economic security, but also reducing Japan's huge trade surplus with the United States, which is a major source of friction between the two countries. They expressed hope that this will eventually lead to the lifting of the embargo on North Slope oil, the principal product of the Alaskan oil industry.

CITIZENS OPPOSE U.S. MILITARY FACILITY AT ZUSHI

OW280509 Tokyo KYODO in English 0445 GMT 28 Oct 85

[Text] Yokosuka, Kanagawa Pref., Oct. 28 KYODO -- A group of citizens Monday called for dissolution of the City Assembly of Zushi, near here, demanding that it withdraw a decision which favors construction of accommodation facilities for U.S. military personnel. A spokesman said citizens will start collecting signatures shortly to force the assembly into dissolution. They have to collect signatures from at least one third of the city's 43,000 eligible voters to force a plebiscite.

A majority vote in the plebiscite would dissolve the assembly, which voted in May to allow construction of U.S. military housing on the site of a former U.S. ammunition depot. Zushi Mayor Kiichiro Tomino is opposed to the project, and earlier this year won an election over the incumbent mayor, who supported construction of the accommodation.

MAG SECRETARIES HOLD 476TH MEETING IN PANMUNJOM

SK300249 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 0000 GMT 30 Oct 85

[Text] On 29 October, the 476th meeting of the MAC secretaries was held in Panmunjom on the proposal of our side. The meeting was a closed-door session. After the meeting, the secretary met with reporters. He answered a question raised by a KCNA reporter on the progress of the meeting. The secretary of our side said: At the previous meeting, the two sides discussed narrowing the differences of opinion on the question of practical measures to ensure security in and remove arms from the MAC Headquarters area, but failed to make progress.

Our side set forth a proposal to ensure security in and remove armaments from the headquarters area of the MAC, prevent the recurrence of a grave incident of an armed clash, create a favorable atmosphere for North-South dialogue, and ensure the safe activities of the armistice supervisory organs. Our proposal is also aimed at strictly observing the Armistice Agreement and at supervising and inspecting the implementation of the agreement by setting up a joint supervisory group as stipulated in the agreement.

The realization of our proposal will completely remove such elements as aggravating tension in the MAC Headquarters area and greatly contribute to creating an atmosphere of credibility and peace for those who visit Panmunjom or travel to the North and South.

As the previous meeting, the U.S. side expressed interest in ensuring tension and guaranteeing North-South dialogue and said that the Armistice Agreement and other agreements between the two sides should be implemented. As a measure to this end, however, the U.S. side only proposed the establishment of a joint inspection system in the Joint Security Area [JSA] and agreed areas along the DMZ. This assertion by the U.S. side is too far from our intention. A perfect security measure in the MAC Headquarters area is our side's proposal to ensure security in and remove armaments from the area. To provide a favorable conditions and an environment for the easing tensions and for North-South dialogue at the earliest date, nevertheless, we have decided to take even the lukewarm and restrictive assertion of the U.S. side into full consideration.

Proceeding from this, although our side's proposal for ensuring the security within and withdrawal of armaments from the area of the MAC Headquarters is still valid, our side proposed to do the following for the time being:

First, our side already proposed the paring down of the number of guards within the JSA from the former 35 to 10 and the number of guards in other parts of the MAC Headquarters area from the former 65 to 20. However, since the U.S. side insists on the impossibility of decreasing the number in the MAC Headquarters area, we proposed keeping the original number of the guard personnel agreed upon in the past.

Second, our side proposed that the guards in the JSA carry no weapons of any kind and that the MAC Headquarters personnel outside the JSA carry pistols only. However, since the U.S. side is against limiting the guards' weapons, we proposed to let the guards carry weapons as agreed upon in the past.

Third, we already proposed that all military setups and guard posts in the MAC Headquarters area be destroyed and heavy and automatic weapons and dangerous objects be eliminated from that area. In fact, if the guards are to be on duty with only pistol or rifle, the only thing they need is a guard post befitting of such a purpose and therefore military setups like fortress and encampments would not be necessary.

Based on this, our side proposes now that all military setups like fortresses and encampments except small guard posts suitable for the guard personnel who are on duty with only pistols and rifles in the area of the MAC Headquarters including the JSA, in accordance with the demands of the truce agreement, be destroyed and that heavy and automatic weapons and dangerous objects be removed from these areas.

Fourth, our side proposed to let Joint Inspection Group No 2 in charge of the MAC Headquarters area regularly supervise the strict implementation of the Armistice Agreement and subsidiary agreements of both sides in those areas. The Joint Inspection Group would be accompanied by the members of the Neutral National Supervisory Commission [NNSC].

The U.S. side now insists on setting up a joint inspection system consisting of both sides for an area within the JSA and the DMZ agreed upon by both sides. However, since 5 joint supervisory teams are to be in charge of the joint inspection of the JSA and the DMZ in accordance with the Armistice Agreement, joint inspection should be left to the joint supervisory teams that have already been set up. And the idea of including the members of the NNSC in the joint inspections has already been reflected in our proposal. Therefore, considering that the two sides have already agreed in principle in this regard, we propose to expand the inspection system of the JSA as insisted on by the U.S. side to the MAC Headquarters area.

Fifth, our side proposed safety measures be taken in the MAC Headquarters area, including the JSA. The U.S. side, however, asserted that it was not appropriate to deal with questions relating to the headquarters area of the MAC at this moment since the MAC Headquarters area is a very important place both geographically and historically. At the same time, the U.S. side said it is most appropriate to discuss the security system in the JSA as it is an important area. We consider this an expression of U.S. recognition that measures should be taken to ensure security in the important areas. This being the case, our side now proposes that measures be taken for ensuring the security in the MAC Headquarters area, including the JSA, which are the most sensitive places where armed clashes are likely to take place, important areas geographically and historically where talks are conducted, in order to ease tension and provide an atmosphere and conditions favorable to North-South talks.

Simply put, what our side proposes is that the number of guards in the MAC Headquarters area and the weapons that the guards carry in this area be left as agreed upon in the past and that all military setups be destroyed and heavy and automatic weapons be removed and after that, a joint inspection of these areas be conducted and the inspection groups are to be accompanied by the members of the NNSC.

The secretary of our side said that the differences between the two sides have been, it can be said, almost obliterated, because our side has considered the assertions of the U.S. side to a great extent. He said that, though it has a considerable limitation on taking complete security measures in the MAC Headquarters area when compared with our original intent, our proposal will make some contribution to the easing of tension in the MAC Headquarters area, preventing grave armed clashes, creating a favorable atmosphere for North-South dialogue, and guaranteeing the safe activities of the armistice supervisory organizations.

However, the secretary of the U.S. side said that he had been directed by the senior member of his side to say that the withdrawal of arms from the MAC Headquarters can never be accepted, because it is certain that this will be militarily unfavorable to their side. He said the senior member of his side opposed the expansion of the inspection system in the JSA to the MAC Headquarters area.

The secretary of our side said: The assertions of the U.S. side **contradict** the facts. Taking a step to guarantee security in the MAC Headquarters area and withdrawing arms from there does not give advantage to one side and disadvantage to the other, but makes the two sides assume the same duties. When the MAC Headquarters area was originally being established, the both sides were equally considered geographically and militarily. Therefore, today, the question of so-called military interest cannot be presented.

The U.S. side says that the withdrawal of arms from the MAC Headquarters is unfavorable to its side. This, after all, means that the U.S. side has installed military facilities in this area, violating the Armistice Agreement.

The secretary of our side went on to add: The proposal for taking a step to guarantee security in the MAC Headquarters area is important because the area is a spot where tension is prevailing, where North-South dialogue is held, where the personnel participating in dialogue are engaged in activities, and where the armistice supervisory organizations carry out work: Otherwise, the proposal has never been put forth. The U.S. side holds that another area of the DMZ be selected for such a step. If a step is taken in another area, not in the MAC Headquarters area, it will be impossible to guarantee the safe activities of those who participate in North-South dialogue and visit the North and the South, and of the members of the Armistice supervisory organizations. Only when the step is taken in the MAC Headquarters area, can tensions be eased in the area, a favorable condition and atmosphere be guaranteed for North-South dialogue, and the activities of the armistice supervisory organizations be guaranteed. Accordingly, it is precisely the MAC Headquarters area where we must take a first step. The U.S. side, too, admits that it is most appropriate to take a step to guarantee security in the JSA, because this area is important. Therefore, it must accept our proposal for taking a security step in the MAC Headquarters area which is important geographically and historically.

In addition, the secretary of our side said that the U.S. side, instead of insisting on its assertions, must adopt a stand to solve problems and, to solve problems, must find such a way to ease tension in the MAC Headquarters area, including the JSA, and to guarantee a favorable atmosphere and condition for North-South dialogue, and must proceed from this. He said that the U.S. side must respond affirmatively, because it is said that it would answer after studying our new proposal.

MORE SPEECHES, MEETINGS, HONOR CHINESE VOLUNTEERS

Li Peng Speaks at Mass Rally

SK280540 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 1000 GMT 26 Oct 85

[Speech by Li Peng, member of the Political Bureau and Secretariat of the CPC Central Committee and vice premier of the PRC State Council, at a 26 October North Hwanghae provincial mass meeting held at Sariwon Square welcoming the PRC party and Government delegation visiting the DPRK to participate in celebrations marking the 35th anniversary of the entry of the Chinese People's Volunteers, CPV, into the Korean war -- recorded, with superimposed Korean translation]

[Text] Respected Comrade Kim Hwan, respected Comrade Chong Chun, respected Comrade Choe Mun-son, respected comrade cadres of the party and the government organizations of the North Hwanghae Province and Sariwon City, and dear residents and comrades of Sariwon:

The Chinese party and Government delegation is very glad to visit our fraternal neighbor at the invitation of the WPK and the DPRK Government and to participate in the celebrations marking the 35th anniversary of the entry of the CPV into the Korean war. [applause]

For these few days the WPK and the Korean Government have provided especially grand celebrations and recalled the achievements of the CPV. This has moved us deeply. In particular, the Korean people's great leader President Kim Il-song met us warmly this morning and had a very comradely and friendly talk with us. This thoroughly showed the Korean people's true fraternal feelings toward the Chinese people, and we will never forget this. [applause]

We now also have this opportunity to participate in this welcoming meeting in Sariwon, overflowing with feelings of kindred love. On behalf of the CPC, Chinese Government, and the Chinese people, I once again express our lofty respect to the WPK, the Korean Government, and the fraternal Korean people. [applause]

In the name of all comrades of the Chinese party and Government delegation, I express our sincere gratitude to the comrade cadres of the party and government organizations of the North Hwanghae Province and Sariwon and the people here, and offer the Chinese people's warmest greetings and best wishes to the comrades. [applause]

Sariwon is the (?capital) city of the North Hwanghae Province and it is a heroic city well known to the Chinese people. During the Korean fatherland liberation war, the fathers, mothers, brothers, and sisters here shared life, death, joy, and sorrow with the CPV and fought shoulder to shoulder with it and made an important contribution to repelling the U.S. imperialists' aggression and winning victory in the fatherland liberation war. [applause]

The people of Sariwon and the North Hwanghae Province, together with the entire Korean people, well supported the CPV, gave deep attention to it, and gave great encouragement to it. The comrades-in-arms of China and Korea formed warm friendship, just like between real brothers, in the fierce joint struggle. Sino-Korean friendship cemented in blood is the most valuable common wealth for the people of our two countries. This friendship will encourage us to advance together hand in hand forever in the future as well. [applause]

We, as your comrades-in-arms and comrades, with great joy over the past 35 years since the end of the war have seen the people of North Hwanghae Province and Sariwon turning a war-devastated Sariwon into a new city at the speed of chollima, demonstrating the revolutionary spirit of self-reliance and arduous struggle under the leadership of the WPK headed by Comrade Kim Il-song. The great change brought about in Sariwon after the war is an example of the great successes attained by the people of North Hwanghae Province and the entire Korean people in the ever-progressing socialist construction. We greatly rejoice at the successes achieved by you and the entire Korean people and heartily wish the fraternal Korean people new greater successes in the future. [applause]

We realize the reunification of the country is an urgent national aspiration of the entire Korean people. More than 30 years have already passed since the end of the Korean war, but the reunification of Korea has not been realized even today. This abnormal situation not only goes against the consistent aspirations of the entire Korean people, but also is unfavorable to peace and security of the Korean peninsula and (?Northeast) Asia.

For many years in the past the WPK and the Korean Government have made consistent efforts to reunify the fatherland, and by making a series of reasonable and realistic assertions and proposals they are receiving support from the entire Korean people and all the world's peace-loving and justice-seeking people. The United States should withdraw its troops from South Korea and provide favorable conditions for the peaceful reunification of Korea.

The CPC, the Chinese Government, and the Chinese people resolutely support the Korean people's just cause of the independent and peaceful reunification of the fatherland, the proposal of the WPK and the Korean Government for the reunification by means of a confederal system, and the proposal for tripartite talks between the North and South of Korea and the United States. [applause]

The U.S. and South Korean persons in authority should properly express their sincerity by real action for the alleviation of tension on the Korean peninsula and for the settlement of the Korean question.

The reunification of the country and the unity of fellow countrymen are historical trends that cannot be checked. Any maneuvers to perpetuate the division of Korea will certainly fail. We are convinced that a reunified, independent, strong, and prosperous new Korea will certainly emerge in the east of the world through the consistent effort of the entire Korean people. [applause]

Comrades: Under the leadership of the CPC, the Chinese people are today carrying out with one mind and will, socialist modernization construction and are struggling to realize the reunification of the country at an early date.

At this opportunity I am very pleased to tell you that the people's economy of our country has entered the stage of balanced, stable, and continuous development, that the overall reform on the economic system of our country with the basic objective of developing the social production capacity has progressed in a planned and orderly manner, that [word indistinct] effect has been attained in it, and that the independent and peaceful foreign policy implemented by our country is increasingly enjoying broad understanding and support from the international community with each passing day.

We are well aware that there are many difficulties in our way. Nevertheless we are full of faith and resolve that we can certainly build our country so that it will become a prosperous, strong, and modernized socialist state through consistent effort. [applause]

Comrades: China and Korea are close neighbors which share the same mountains, rivers and which are like relations between the lips and teeth. In the course of the joint revolutionary struggle for scores of years in the past, the peoples of China and Korea have shared life, death, joy, and sorrow and supported each other. Our people will never forget that the Korean people rendered them very valuable support for their socialist construction and for the cause of the reunification of the fatherland in all stages of the Chinese revolution.

The CPC and the Chinese Government set the greatest store in Sino-Korean friendship. [applause] The friendly and cooperative relations between China and Korea have been continuously solidified and developed by the joint effort of our two countries. Through the mutual visits and meetings between the party and state leaders of the two countries in recent years and with their direct consideration and guidance, Sino-Korean friendship has developed to a new and higher stage.

We are convinced that no force can break the Sino-Korean friendship deeply cherished in the hearts of the peoples of the two countries, and the friendship and cooperation between them will certainly bear richer fruit to bring them happiness.

I wish the DPRK growth and prosperity and the people of North Hwanghae Province and Sariwon a happier and more brilliant life. [applause] Long live the heroic Korean people. [applause] Long live the great friendship cemented in blood between the peoples of China and Korea. [applauses]

Choe Mun-son's Address

SK282204 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 1007 GMT 26 Oct 85

[Speech by Choe Mun-son, chief secretary of the North Hwanghae Provincial WPK Committee and chairman of the North Hwanghae Provincial People's Committee, at a 26 October North Hwanghae provincial meeting held at Sariwon Square to welcome the Li Peng-led PRC party and government delegation visiting the DPRK to participate in celebrations marking the 35th anniversary of the entry of the CPV into the Korean war -- recorded]

[Text] Respected Comrade Li Peng, friendly foreign guests, comrades: Today, the citizens of Sariwon have gathered here with the great pleasure of holding a significant meeting with the Chinese comrades -- friendly revolutionary comrades-in-arms -- who have visited our country to attend the celebrations of the 35th anniversary of the entry of the CPV into the Korean war. Our citizens of Sariwon, who received the brotherly Chinese people's friendly envoys at a time when Korea-China friendship is brilliantly flowering and developing, are deeply moved with strong emotions, as if we have met blood kin. At this meaningful place filled with the sentiment of revolutionary fraternity and friendship, in the name of all workers of North Hwanghae Province and Sariwon City, I warmly welcome Comrade Li Peng, member of the CPC Central Committee Political Bureau, member of the CPC Central Committee Secretariat, and vice premier of the PRC State Council, and other comrades of the Chinese party and Government delegation. [applause]

Through you, I also extend the warm and friendly greetings of the workers of North Hwanghae Province and friendly greetings of the workers of North Hwanghae Province and Sariwon City to the brotherly Chinese people, former CPV officers and men, and the PLA commanders and fighters. [applause]

Thirty-five years ago, on 25 October, the friendly Chinese people organized a volunteer army with their excellent sons and daughters and sent it to the Korean front under the banner of "Resist America, Aid Korea, Safeguard the Home, and Defend the Nation" in order to help the Korean people who were fighting against the U.S. imperialists' act of (? aggression). The brotherly Chinese people organized the CPV and sent it to the Korean front under the difficult circumstances in which only a few years had passed since they had embarked upon the road of building a new society after winning victory in the long revolutionary struggle. This is a clear expression of their firm determination and will to share fate, joy, and sorrow with our people on the single, turbulent road of opposing the common enemy, and is a practical model of proletarian internationalism. [applause]

The CPV fighters loyally followed the teachings of their leader [suryong] as the Chinese people's sons and daughters and thoroughly demonstrated the noble character of true internationalist warriors. The CPV fighters loved even a mountain, stream, plant, and tree in Korea. [applause] The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song has taught: Korea-China friendship has a long tradition, has been in full bloom through the joint struggle of the peoples of the two countries, and has been solidly strengthened through turbulent trials.

Through the long and strenuous joint struggle for national liberation, class liberation, socialist revolution, and socialist construction, the Korean and Chinese peoples have formed a militant friendship that cannot be severed, and have always supported and closely cooperated with each other, binding their destinies into one. The Korean and Chinese peoples, hand in hand, defeated the Japanese and U.S. imperialists. This more brightly decorates the history of Korea-China friendship. Indeed, Korea-China friendship has a proud history in which the peoples of the two countries, as class brothers and revolutionary comrades-in-arms, have jointly waged struggles and jointly won victories. [applause]

The friendship between the Korean and Chinese peoples is an invincible friendship which the great leader of our people comrade Kim Il-song had formed and developed together with the great leader of the Chinese people Comrade Mao Zedong and the respected Comrade Zhou Enlai. [applause]

The traditional, great Korea-China friendship is flowering more beautifully today as a result of repeated, historical meetings and visits between the leaders of the two countries. The recent visits to China by the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song and by the dear Comrade Kim Chong-il and the recent visits to our country by the respected Comrades Hu Yaobang and Deng Xiaoping were historical events which vigorously demonstrated the invincible friendship and unity between the parties and peoples of the two countries and developed the friendship and unity to a new, higher level. [applause] The invincible friendship and revolutionary unity between the Korean and Chinese peoples, which was formed with blood through the prolonged joint struggle and all trials in history, will not be destroyed by any power and will be inherited and developed generation after generation. [applause]

Today, revolution and construction are being successfully carried out in Korea and China and the power of the two countries is growing and being strengthened with each passing day. We are pleased, in particular, with the fact that all work is going on well in China -- a friendly ally and a country of comrades-in-arms. [applause]

Uniting firmly around the CPC, the Chinese people, who have met a new historical turning point with the 3d Plenary Session of the 11th CPC Central Committee as an opportunity, are courageously overcoming trials and difficulties laid on the road of their advance and vigorously struggling to realize the socialist modernization program put forth by the [word indistinct] party congress by highly demonstrating the revolutionary spirit of self-reliance and arduous struggle. Under the tested leadership of the Chinese party and government led by the respected Comrades Hu Yaobang and Deng Xiaoping, the construction of material and spiritual civilization is being successfully accelerated in China and the appearance of (?China) is changing with each passing day.

Newly encouraged by the decisions of the recent National Conference of Party Delegates, which have opened a brighter prospect for their destiny, the brotherly Chinese people, with new trust and hope, are scoring great success in agriculture, industry, national defense, and science and technology. Today, China is making active efforts to strengthen peace and security in the world and is exerting a great influence on the development of the international political situation.

Our people sincerely rejoice over the fraternal Chinese people's achievement, and sincerely hope that they will attain greater successes in the future in their struggle to accelerate the socialist modernization program by upholding the decisions of the 11th party congress and the recent National Conference of Party Delegates, and to reunify the country by returning Taiwan to China under the wise leadership of the CPC. [applause]

The Chinese party and Government delegation has visited our country at a time when our people are bringing about new revolutionary upsurges on all fronts of socialist construction with the great pride of marking the 40th anniversaries of the liberation of the fatherland and the party's founding as a great festival of victors, and with redoubled courage. Our workers of North Hwanghae Province and our citizens of Sariwon City are waging a joint struggle to materialize the proud tasks bestowed upon us by upholding the line of three revolutions -- ideological, technological, and cultural -- in step with the revolutionary spirit burning throughout the country. As a result, many plants and enterprises have already completed their annual production goals ahead of time. [applause]

As a result of our thorough materialization of the party's chuche-oriented agricultural method, we expect to see an unprecedented bumper crop this year, despite unfavorable weather. Under the care of the kind party and leader, our province, as one possessing developed agriculture and industry, is playing a role in strengthening the prospects and might of the country and is being turned into a pleasant dwelling place.

The changes that have taken place in our province, along with the prosperity and development of the fatherland, are a shining fruition of the tested leadership of the WPK Central Committee headed by the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song. [applause] The working people and citizens of our North Hwanghae province and Sariwon City will more vigorously advance by firmly rallying around our party. By so doing, they will actively contribute to attaining the 10 long-range goals of socialist construction ahead of schedule.

Ending the division of the country and achieving the reunification of the fatherland are the most urgent tasks that our people face in their struggle today. The government of the republic and our people are making all efforts to settle the question of the reunification of the country in a peaceful way through dialogue and negotiations. The proposal for the establishment of the Democratic Confederal Republic of Koryo [DCRK] put forth by the sixth congress of our party and our recent proposals for tripartite talks and North-South parliamentary talks are the most just and rational ones to settle the question of the country's reunification peacefully. These proposals are a reflection of the sincere efforts which our party and the government of the republic are exerting to achieve the reunification of the country in a peaceful way, by all means. Our people will make all sincere efforts to ensure that North-South dialogue, in progress in many fields as a result of our active proposals, will successfully progress in accordance with the idea of the fatherland's reunification.

The United States must abandon the anachronistic policy of perpetuating the division of Korea, and must withdraw U.S. troops and nuclear weapons from South Korea. At the same time, it must respond to our proposal for tripartite talks at an early date. North-South dialogue must not serve as dialogue to freeze division, but as a dialogue to seek reunification.

The South Korean authorities must discontinue the hostile acts and the slanderous propaganda which they commit and stage against us behind the curtain of dialogue. They must participate in dialogue with the correct attitude and stand of achieving the reunification of the fatherland. There are many difficulties on our people's road toward the reunification of the country. However, with active support and encouragement from the fraternal Chinese people and the progressive peoples of the world, our people will smash the schemes for two Koreas that the splittists within and without are seeking, and will achieve the historic cause of the fatherland's reunification without fail.

Availing myself of this opportunity, I express deep gratitude for the sincere and active help that the fraternal Chinese people rendered to our people during those difficult days of the Fatherland Liberation War and the postwar rehabilitation and construction period, and for the active support and solidarity which they are invariably extending today by regarding our people's struggle for the socialist construction of the country and the independent and peaceful reunification of the fatherland as their own. [applause]

Our people regard it as a source of great pride to have the fraternal Chinese people as their intimate comrades-in-arms and as a reliable ally. [applause] Ceaselessly consolidating and developing the Korea-China friendship is the unanimous desire of the peoples of the two countries and a demand of the revolutionary development in the two countries.

As in the past, we will, in the future as well, value the friendship and unity with the fraternal Chinese people, and will make all efforts to bring the traditional Korea-China friendship into full bloom generation after generation. [applause] Long live the great friendship and militant unity sealed in blood between the Korean and Chinese peoples! [shouts of "Long Live," and applause]

Pak Chung-kuk at PRC Reception

SK300540 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0526 GMT 30 Oct 85

[Text] Pyongyang October 30 (KCNA) -- Chinese Ambassador to Korea Zong Kewen hosted a reception on October 29 at the embassy upon the conclusion of the Korean visit of the delegation of the former Chinese People's Volunteers and the delegation of heroes of the former Chinese People's Volunteers. Invited there were Colonel General Pak Chung-kuk, Major General Yi Hong-sun, other generals and officers of the Korean People's Army. Present there were the members of the delegation of the former Chinese People's Volunteers headed by Liu Zhenhua, member of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China, political commissar of the Shenyang Military District of the Chinese People's Liberation Army [CPLA] and divisional commander of the former CPV; and the delegation of heroes of the former Chinese People's Volunteers headed by second class combat hero of the CPV Han Decai, deputy commander of the Air Force of the Nanjing Military District of the CPLA.

The reception was addressed by Liu Zhenhua and Pak Chung-kuk. Liu Zhenhua said: During our stay in Korea respected President Kim Il-song, in spite of the urgency of his affairs, found time to receive us and have a cordial conversation with us. This is a boundless honor for us. The resourceful Korean people, he noted, under the leadership of President Kim Il-song and the Workers' Party of Korea have completely changed the appearance of Korea by performing great feats in the ruins of war, united in the indomitable revolutionary spirit and the conviction of victory. The Chinese people will in the future, too, resolutely support the reasonable proposals put forward by President Kim Il-song and the Korean Government for the peaceful reunification of the country and the just struggle of the fraternal Korean people for their realisation and make continued efforts to further consolidate and develop Sino-Korean friendship, he said.

Pak Chung-kuk noted that the respected leader of our people President Kim Il-song received the delegation of the former Chinese People's Volunteers and the delegation of heroes of the former Chinese People's Volunteers and arranged a luncheon for them. This is a clear manifestation of the indestructibility of the great Korea-China friendship sealed in blood in the flames of a revolutionary struggle for over half a century. He wished the fraternal Chinese people and the People's Liberation Army officers and men greater successes in their future struggle to carry out the Seventh Five-Year Plan ahead of schedule and build a modernized socialist power on the basis of the successes already achieved, in hearty response to decisions of the national conference of the Communist Party of China held some time ago.

CPV Bereaved Families Welcomed

SK300552 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0534 GMT 30 Oct 85

[Text] Pyongyang October 30 (KCNA) -- A meeting welcoming the delegation of bereaved families of fallen fighters of the former Chinese People's Volunteers headed by Liu Jaijun, director of the Organisational Section of the General Political Department of the Chinese People's Liberation Army, which came to Korea to attend the celebrations of the 35th anniversary of the entry of the Chinese People's Volunteers into the Korean war was held Tuesday at the Chollima House of Culture.

U Ki-nam, vice-chairman of the Commission of Public Welfare and vice-chairman of the Central Committee of the Korea-China Friendship Association, made a speech at the meeting. He recalled that the CPV officers and men defended with their own lives hills and villages of Korea by displaying mass heroism and bravery, sharing life and death, weal and woe, with the Korean people in decisive battles for beating the U.S. imperialist aggressors, in hearty response to the call of their great leader Comrade Mao Zedong. Noting that the Chinese people are greeting a new turning-point of revolution under the guidance of the leadership of the Communist Party of China including respected Comrades Hu Yaobang and Deng Xiaoping, the speaker said: They are now intensifying the struggle for building socialism peculiar to China according to a new blueprint unfolded by the party and reunifying the whole country by having Taiwan returned to the homeland. We sincerely rejoice over the fact that everything is going well in China and express firm solidarity with the Chinese people in their just cause, he stated.

Recalling that the great leader of the Korean people President Kim Il-song received the delegation and posed for a photograph with it, Liu Jaijun said that this was an expression of his warm care not only for the delegation but also for the entire Chinese people and bereaved families of the CPV fallen fighters and a manifestation of the warm and deep feelings of friendship of the Workers' Party, government and people of Korea.

The Chinese people, he said, are glad over the fact that the Korean people have turned Korea into a prospering socialist country in a short period after the war by displaying the revolutionary spirit of self-reliance and hard struggle under the wise leadership of President Kim Il-song and the Workers' Party of Korea. He noted that the Korean people successfully carried out the Second Seven-Year Plan, holding aloft the revolutionary line of independence, self-sustenance and self-reliant defence advanced by President Kim Il-song and are now striving to attain the ten long-range objectives of the socialist economic construction for the 80s put forward at the sixth congress of the party under the banner of the three revolutions: ideological, technical and cultural.

Stressing that an early realisation of the reunification of the country is the urgent national desire of the entire Korean people, the speaker said: We support the proposals for establishing the Democratic Confederal Republic of Koryo and holding tripartite talks put forward by President Kim Il-song.

[Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean at 1230 GMT on 29 October, in a report on the welcoming, notes the attendance of Yi Song-ho, vice-chairman of the Committee for Cultural Relations With Foreign Countries.]

Ho Chong-suk Meets Union Group

SK300516 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0457 GMT 30 Oct 85

[Text] Pyongyang October 30 (KCNA) -- Ho Chong-suk, secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, on October 29 met and had a friendly talk with the delegation of the All-China Federation of Trade Unions headed by Wang Xun, member of the Secretariat of the federation, on a visit to Korea to attend the celebrations of the 35th anniversary of the entry of the Chinese People's Volunteers into the Korean war. Present there were Kang Chong-pal, vice-chairman of the Central Committee of the General Federation of Trade Unions, and Zong Kewen, Chinese ambassador to Korea.

TALK CONDEMNS TWO KOREAS 'SCHEME,' UN ENTRY

SK251247 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 0830 GMT 18 Oct 85

[Unattributed talk: "The Machination To Concoct Two Koreas Should Be Smashed"]

[Text] Splittists at home and abroad are now frantically running wild to fabricate two Koreas. This is well proven by the fact that recently splittists at home and abroad have tenaciously schemed to perpetuate the division of Korea by coming up again with the theory of entry into the United Nations.

Because of the ever-unscrupulous schemes to fabricate two Koreas by splittists at home and abroad, the reunification question of our country has faced serious obstacles, and the danger of permanent national division has further increased. At the same time, the situation in our country has become more tense than ever before and the dark clouds of a new war are hanging over the Korean peninsula because of the division and military confrontation in Korea. This poses a great threat to the peace and security of Asia and the world. Therefore, to alleviate tension on the Korean peninsula and to achieve the country's reunification, the maneuvers for fabricating two Koreas by splittists at home and abroad should be sternly smashed.

1. Recently, splittists have been cunningly scheming to legalize two Koreas internationally by bringing the Korean question into the arena of the United Nations. In his recent speech at the 40th UN General Assembly session, Shultz, U.S. secretary of state, said that the entry of the North and the South into the United Nations would be conducive to alleviating tension on the Korean peninsula. Japanese Foreign Minister Abe, who spoke after Shultz, repeated the same words as Shultz, saying that he supports the simultaneous entry of the North and the South into the United Nations in an effort to alleviate the tension on the Korean peninsula.

The South Korean puppet prime minister, who sneaked into the United States under the support and patronage of his U.S. and Japanese bosses, reportedly will make a so-called speech to the United Nations late in October with regard to the question of separate entry of South Korea into the United Nations in the event that it is impossible for the North and the South to enter the international organization simultaneously.

In the United States, where the UN General Assembly session is being held, splittists at home and abroad are now desperately waging behind-the-scenes dealings in a bid to successfully realize the entry of South Korea into the United Nations. At a time when North-South dialogue has been realized and the Korean people's aspiration for national reunification is further increasing, the U.S. imperialists and their stooges are loudly clamoring about the so-called entry into the United Nations. This is a very serious move that cannot be overlooked.

Splittists are clamoring about the entry of the North and the South into the United Nations, saying that this would be conducive to alleviating tension on the Korean peninsula. This is nothing but a shameless sophistry designed to conceal the reactionary nature of the rascals' proposal for entry into the United Nations. The so-called entry into the international organization which has been clamored about by splittists at home and abroad is nothing but a variant of the rascals' two Koreas policy designed to trample underfoot the Korean people's desire for national reunification and to fix the present state of division in our country. This is also a theory of permanent division designed to win international recognition of two Koreas by covering South Korea, a colony of the U.S. imperialists, with an overlay of sovereignty using the method of bringing North and South Korea into the United Nations simultaneously or bringing South Korea into the United Nations separately, thus making South Korea look like a sovereign state.

It is only too clear that the splittists' clamoring about entry into the United Nations is not only a result of their splittist rule of dominating other countries and nations with less effort, but also proceeds from the imperialists' policy of aggression to hold on to South Korea and to realize their wild ambition to dominate the Korean peninsula, Asia, and the world.

The recent triggering of the rackets of entry into the United Nations by splittists at home and abroad is part of their deliberate and systematic maneuvers for fabricating two Koreas. Fabricating two Koreas is the U.S. imperialists' basic strategy toward Korea. The U.S. imperialists' two Koreas strategy reflects the difficult situation facing them today. From the first day of their occupation of South Korea, the U.S. imperialists faced the strong resistance of our people. The struggle of the South Korean youths, students, and people for democracy and reunification has been rapidly intensified. As a consequence, the U.S. imperialists' colonial rule of South Korea has been completely shaken.

The U.S. imperialists have suffered severe blows in many regions of the world, including Asia and Latin America. As a result, they have lost their influence in many parts of the world. The U.S. imperialists, who have been driven into a corner at home and abroad, concocted the two Koreas line in the early 1970's in a bid to hinder the reunification of Korea and to hold on to the South Korea at least and then declared this line as their policy. The two Koreas line of the United States is a dangerous splittist line to fix the present state of division in our country and to fabricate two states on the Korean peninsula. It is also an adventurous war line to hold on to the South Korea permanently, to strengthen war preparations, and to accelerate the realization of the U.S. imperialists' wild ambition for aggression against the whole of Korea and for dominating the world.

Since it adopted the two Koreas line as a policy, the United States has used all possible means and methods to perpetuate the state of division in Korea. While repressing the South Korean people's desire for national reunification and inciting consciousness of confrontation among the people on the one hand, the U.S. imperialists have tried to seek the legalization of the two Koreas plot on the other hand.

The so-called cross-contact, cross-recognition, and entry into the United Nations are precisely the U.S. imperialists' fabrications to legalize their two Koreas plot. The world's people still vividly remember the fact that the proposal for the simultaneous entry of the North and South into the United Nations was sternly rejected at the 28th UN General Assembly Session in 1973 and that the proposal for the separate entry of South Korea into the international organization which was presented to the 30th UN General Assembly Session in 1975 was also sternly rejected even before it was adopted as an agenda item for debate.

What they came up with as a variant of the two Koreas policy after finding that the entry into the United Nations did not work was precisely cross-contact and cross-recognition. After mapping out various splittist plans, the United States has pursued its two Koreas policy, under the slogan of entry into the United Nations in the early 1970's. Entering the 1980's, the United States has perpetrated the maneuvers to push ahead with the reactionary splittist plans by clamoring about both entry into the United Nations and cross-recognition.

This shows that while clamoring about cross-recognition outside the United Nations the splittists are kicking off rackets for entry into the United Nations in the arena of the United Nations, thus perpetrating all possible maneuvers for the perpetuation of the division of Korea.

The criminal maneuvers to fabricate two Koreas have become more unscrupulous through the conspiracy and collusion of the United States, Japan, and the South Korean puppets. The United States is the ringleader who is trying to block Korea's reunification and to fabricate two Koreas. The United States has attached importance to South Korea in the implementation of its global strategy.

The U.S. imperialists, who have lost the foundations of their aggression one by one, are now dreaming of realizing their ambition to invade the entire region of Korea and Asia, while occupying South Korea and using it as a base of operations. Their open declaration that South Korea is in the forefront of U.S. strategy and an area for testing power in the 1980's clearly shows the importance they attach to South Korea. The U.S. imperialists, who are attempting to keep South Korea forever from the viewpoint of the strategical importance of this region, are accelerating the maneuvers to perpetuate division, regarding the fabrication of two Koreas as a practical method. Regarding the fabrication of two Koreas as the basic policy toward Korea and Asia, they are using every means to realize the fabrication of two Koreas, and are mobilizing their allies and followers for this.

The Japanese reactionaries are playing a leading role in the maneuvers to perpetuate the division of Korea by seeking the two-Koreas policy. The Japanese reactionaries, who are following the U.S. imperialists' policies toward Korea and Asia, are actively participating in the U.S. plot to fabricate two Koreas. They oppose Korea's reunification, speak highly of the perpetual division of Korea, and openly support the U.S. imperialists' occupation of South Korea and their war maneuvers. It is the Japanese imperialists who were the first to accept the idea of admission into the United Nations and the theory of cross-recognition -- variants of the two-Koreas policy -- and who are acting as leader to realize them. After preparing even government-level policies for admission into the United Nations and cross-recognition, the Japanese reactionaries are using all forms of (?dirty) tricks to perpetuate the division of Korea. The Japanese reactionaries oppose Korea's reunification and are making utmost efforts in maneuvers to fabricate two-Koreas because they, together with the U.S. imperialists, are attempting to open a way for the reinvasion of the entire region of Korea and the Asian countries, while occupying South Korea.

Japan, which was revived and rearmed at the U.S. imperialists' instigation, is frantically making inroads overseas, and covets Korea as its first target. They are attempting to accelerate the reinvasion of Korea by perpetuating Korea's division and the U.S. forces' occupation of South Korea; moreover, using South Korea as a strategical base of operations, they are trying to invade numerous countries in the Asian and Pacific regions, and to realize the old dream of the Greater East Asia Coprosperity Sphere.

The South Korean puppets are busying themselves in perpetuating Korea's division at the order of the U.S. and Japanese reactionaries. The South Korean puppet traitor is attempting to have U.S. forces occupy South Korea forever and to cope with the situation facing him, surrounded by foes on all sides, and to realize his ambition of staying in power for an extended period of time with the support of the U.S. and Japanese masters. Under this dirty goal and objective, the traitor Chon Tu-hwan is brutally suppressing the struggle of the South Korean youths, students, and people for the reunification of the fatherland and is desperately attempting to realize the admission into the United Nations and cross-recognition, regarding them as the diplomatic objectives of the 1980's.

Traitor Chon Tu-hwan, who is isolated and rejected at home and abroad and reduced to an international orphan, is attempting to promote an international environment for admission into the United Nations and cross-recognition and to join the nonaligned countries, and is making an ugly scene in order to form relations with socialist countries.

It is a well-known fact that when the South Korean puppet traitor was visiting the U.S. imperialist master last spring, he begged his master to positively support the admission into the United Nations and cross-recognition, to increase all aid, and to help him to realize the improvement of relations with (?East European countries).

The South Korean puppets are also attempting to use the Olympics and other international functions to realize their plot to fabricate two Koreas. This is clearly evidenced by the puppets' cunning maneuver to hold the 1988 International Olympic Games in Seoul. The South Korean puppets, who are ridden with a foreign debt exceeding 51 billion, are attempting to be host to the International Olympic Games because of some wicked objective, that is, to provide an international environment favorable for the fabrication of two Koreas. The making of a fuss everywhere by the U.S. and Japanese reactionaries and the South Korean puppets, while giving spur to the three-horse-drawn wagon for the fabrication of two Koreas, clearly shows the fact that the maneuver of the divisionists at home and abroad to perpetuate Korea's division has become more grave with each passing day.

2. Perpetuating Korea's division through the entry into the United Nations is very harmful in view of the interest of our people and justness, progress, and the cause of world peace.

The two Koreas plot of the splittists is an act running counter to the aspiration of all Korean people for reunification. The fatherland's reunification is the unanimous and long-cherished desire and supreme task of the Korean people.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song has taught: Reunifying the fatherland is the unanimous and long-cherished desire of all the fellow countrymen. Korea should be reunified without fail; it should not be divided into two.

Korea is one, and the Korean people are a single entity. Our people have long lived as a homogeneous people in the fatherland's territory, which is composed of single strata or layers of soil. Our people, who have lived during the long period of 5,000 years as a homogeneous people, are enduring immeasurable suffering because of the division of the national territory. All the people in the North and South ardently long for the reunification of the country and desire to harmoniously live in a reunified 3,000-ri land. There is no more important and pressing task for our people than to cement the severed blood lineage of the people and to reunify the fatherland.

Since the division of the country by foreign forces, our party and the government of the republic have struggled to implement a most fair and just proposal for reunifying the fatherland after setting forth this proposal. The peace-loving people of the world who love justice and progress positively support our people's cause of reunifying the fatherland. Only the U.S. imperialists, the Japanese reactionaries, and the South Korean puppets desire the division of Korea. If there exist any others, besides the U.S. imperialists, the Japanese reactionaries, and the South Korean puppets, who follow the machination to concoct two Koreas, they are pinning their expectations on receiving a small sum of dollars, and they dance to the tune of others. If one joins the machination of the U.S. imperialists to concoct two Koreas in the expectation of receiving a small sum of dollars, one will commit an irrevocable crime before the progressive people of the world, as well as before our people.

At this solemn moment when the question of whether Korea will be reunified or divided is at stake, everyone should have thoroughgoing insight into the machination of the U.S. imperialists to concoct two Koreas and should not hinder the cause of peaceful reunification of Korea. The attempt of the splittists to perpetuate the division of Korea by coming up with a theory on admission into the United Nations is a dangerous and criminal act of further heightening tension in our country and of increasing the danger of war.

The heightening of tension on the Korean peninsula has been caused by the U.S. forces' occupation of South Korea, and by the division of the country. The United States is trying to hold on to South Korea forever and to swallow all of Korea. In trying to fulfill a wild and aggressive desire to dominate all of Korea, they have consistently pursued the policy of division and confrontation. For the purpose of confrontation with strength, the U.S. imperialists have implemented the policy of turning South Korea into a military base and have deployed various types of aggressive forces in this region. A great number of military personnel, including the U.S. imperialists' aggressive forces, and sophisticated weapons of mass destruction, including more than 1,000 nuclear weapons, have been deployed in South Korea on a constant basis.

The state of military confrontation between the North and South is a basic factor threatening peace in our country and heightening tension. Without ending the state of military confrontation -- the state of confrontation with strength -- we can never alleviate tension on the Korean peninsula, no matter what method we may use, nor can we guarantee peace in Asia and the world. The act of perpetuating the division of Korea through admission into the United Nations is an act of further deepening and expanding confrontation. This will only result in further heightening tension in our country. If today's Demarcation Line becomes a border as a result of the division of Korea into two, confrontation with strength, a result of the state of military confrontation, will develop into not a military clash in one country, but into a new and adventurist war. This war could expand into one encompassing all of Asia, and into a world war.

The splittists at home and abroad have raved that the perpetual division of Korea through admission into the United Nations constitutes a way to alleviate tension. This is a distortion of truth; it is also brazen and false propaganda conducted to sell horse meat by displaying the head of a sheep. Those who value peace should have a correct insight into the cunning trick of the splittists and into the consequences of this trick, and should not be made a mockery of by the machination to concoct two Koreas.

The attempt of the splittists to drag South Korea into the United Nations while trying to concoct two Koreas is an act of defiling the United Nations. The United Nations is an organization founded to ensure respect for the territory of countries and their independence, freedom, and sovereignty, as well as to protect world peace and security. The principle of the activities of the United Nations is to have independent countries that exercise sovereignty discuss matters concerning world peace and security, justice, and progress, and ensure relations of friendship among countries. Both in light of the goal and mission of the United Nations and in light of the principle of the activities of this organization, the South Korean puppets are not qualified to be admitted into the United Nations. South Korea is a thoroughgoing colony of the U.S. imperialists. The so-called South Korean regime, which is alleged to be, and called, an independent country, is a puppet regime, with a modern type of politics of a colonial military governor concocted by the U.S. imperialists. Although a National Assembly and a president exist in South Korea, they exist for the sake of form. The South Korean regime is a marionette regime that lacks real power as a result of the usurpation of sovereignty and the prerogative of the supreme command of the Army, and that implements directives from its master.

Chon Tu-hwan's military hooligans, who have been trained under the cane wielded by their master, have not only bestially suppressed and murdered the South Korean people, but also served as the executors of the U.S. imperialists' aggressive policy against the peoples of newly emerging countries. It is no secret that, in accordance with the war policy of the U.S. imperialists, the South Korean puppets have been deployed in various areas, including the border area of Nicaragua, and have continuously committed atrocious and murderous terrorist acts against newly emerging countries.

The act of dragging the colonial puppets, who lack sovereignty and who move by the bayonets of the U.S. imperialists, into the United Nations will only result in undermining the dignity and authority of that organization. We cannot but view the attempt to realize the admission of South Korea into the United Nations as an intentional act of contaminating the UN stage with ugly human beings. In particular, the attempt to drag divided countries into the United Nations one by one proceeds from the wicked aim of leading the United Nations in another direction. If divided countries are admitted into the United Nations, this organization will be turned into a forum for fighting for these countries and into a forum designed to make the division of these countries internationally recognized. This totally contradicts the mission and goal of the United Nations.

Korea should not be admitted into the United Nations; it should be admitted to this organization as a reunified country after reunification is achieved. If Korea wants to be admitted into the United Nations before the reunification of the country is achieved, it should be admitted to this organization as a country with a single national title, at least, after a confederal system is adopted. Because of the maneuvers of the splittists at home and abroad to concoct two Koreas, our country has faced a dangerous situation in which it could easily be divided into two forever.

If our country is divided into two, this will bring an immeasurable misfortune to the Korean people, gravely influencing the situation of Asia and the world, as well as the situation on the Korean peninsula. Tension on the Korean peninsula should quickly be alleviated, and the reunification of Korea should be achieved at the earliest possible date. The question of Korea's reunification is a matter of ending domination and interference by foreign forces, of completely achieving the sovereignty of the Korean people, of dispelling the sentiment of mistrust and confrontation between the North and South, and of achieving the unity of the people.

The prerequisite for achieving the reunification of Korea is to check and thwart the maneuvers of the splittists to concoct two Koreas and to end U.S. interference in the internal affairs of Korea. Foreign forces are the sources of the division of our country and of the heightened tension there, and are basic obstacles to the fatherland's reunification. The U.S. imperialists and the Japanese reactionaries do not want the reunification of Korea, and are maneuvering wickedly to concoct two Koreas. Our people will never tolerate the maneuvers of the splittists to concoct two Koreas, and will struggle resolutely against these maneuvers.

A most practical and rational way to reunify the fatherland independently and peacefully on the basis of grand national unity is to form a confederal republic through the combination of the North and the South, leaving the ideologies and systems in the North and South intact. Although 40 years have passed since our country was liberated from the Japanese imperialists' colonial rule, mutually different systems existed in the North and South during this period, and different ideologies have dominated these two areas. To achieve the unity and reunification of the people under such circumstances, we should not make the ideology and system of one side absolute. We have advanced a fair and just proposal for reunifying the fatherland by establishing a reunified government of the people equally participated in by the North and the South on the basis of having the North and South mutually recognize and tolerate the ideology and system of the opposite side, and for founding a confederal republic under which the North and South respectively enact an autonomous regional system with equal rights and responsibilities. Furthermore, we have exerted a positive effort to implement this proposal. If a confederal republic is founded, a decisive phase will be opened on the road of preventing the division of the country, of extensively achieving coalition and collaboration between the North and South, and of expediting complete reunification. The important way to alleviate tension in our country and to expedite the reunification of Korea is to hold tripartite talks with the participation of us, the United States, and South Korea.

Our proposal for holding tripartite talks is an epochal and positive nation-saving proposal for saving our people from the disasters of war, for safeguarding peace in Asia and the world, and for making a breakthrough in the fatherland's reunification by eliminating the source of war from the Korean peninsula. The United States and the South Korean authorities are trying to replace tripartite talks with the North-South dialogue that is now underway. We have long demanded North-South dialogue, and the attempt to resolve the problem through this dialogue is the internal affair of the people -- the matter of cementing the severed ties of the people and of improving and developing relations between the North and South.

We will show sincerity in various ways to make the North-South economic and Red Cross talks, which have been held after a long interval, achieve good results. At the same time, we will exert a positive effort to hold North-South parliamentary talks at the earliest possible date. However, we cannot through North-South dialogue only, resolve all exigent questions that should be resolved first in our country. The exigent question that is awaiting resolution on the Korean peninsula today is to alleviate tension, preserve and consolidate a durable peace, and provide a prerequisite for achieving the fatherland's reunification. In order to provide a prerequisite for achieving the independent and peaceful reunification of Korea, we should alleviate tension in our country replacing the unstable Armistice Agreement with a peace agreement, should eliminate the danger of a new war, and should end the arms race and the state of military confrontation between the North and South by adopting a declaration of non-aggression between the North and South.

The question of replacing the Armistice Agreement with a peace agreement is a question that should be resolved between us and the United States, the parties involved in signing the Armistice Agreement. The question of adopting a declaration of nonaggression between the North and South and of ending the arms race and the state of military confrontation can only be resolved through tripartite talks equally participated in by the United States, which has exercised the prerogative of the supreme command of the Army in South Korea, and by South Korea, the other party that is responsible for heightening tension.

The proposal for holding tripartite talks is one that everyone can accept, because this proposal not only reflects the requirement of the current situation in our country and the desire of our people, but also because this proposal has been advanced taking into full consideration the U.S. demand to make South Korea participate in the talks between us and the United States, possessing an equal standing. If the United States truly desires the alleviation of tension in our country and the peaceful solution of the Korean question, it should respond to our proposal for holding tripartite talks instead of perversely clinging to the maneuvers to perpetuate division by insisting on the policy of two Koreas. If the United States traverses the road of perpetuating the division of Korea, ignoring the situation, it will never be able to avoid strong denunciation and condemnation from the progressive people of the world as well as from our people.

It is the firm stand of our party and the government of the republic and the iron-clad will of our people to smash all maneuvers to divide Korea in two forever and to achieve the country's independent and peaceful reunification. We firmly believe that all people in the world who love justice, progress, and peace will extend positive support for and firm solidarity with the struggle of our people to achieve the country's independent and peaceful reunification and to oppose the maneuvers of the splittists at home and abroad to concoct two Koreas. No force will be able to thwart the will of our people to help all our fellow countrymen live peacefully and happily in a reunified and independent fatherland. Our people will achieve the historic cause of reunifying the fatherland without fail by struggling resolutely with united nationwide efforts and by smashing all forms of splittist maneuvers.

NODONG SINMUN VIEWS SUCCESSORS OF REVOLUTION

SK290021 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 2128 GMT 17 Oct 85

[NODONG SINMUN 18 October Essay: "Successor in the Revolution"]

[Text] With the pioneers, the powerful and mighty ranks of successors of the Korean revolution celebrated the 40th anniversary of national liberation with dignity and firm faith and significantly greeted the 40th anniversary of the founding of the party. The 40th anniversary of the founding of the party was a significant event in the history of our party and people. Greeting the 40th anniversary of the founding of the party, our people recalled the days when they struggled along with the leadership of the party and the days of victory achieved under the leadership of the party, and, at the same time, optimistically foresaw the road that they would traverse in the future.

Almost 60 years have passed since the banner of the Korean revolution, the banner of the Down-With-Imperialism Union, was raised. The long period of 40 years has passed since our party was founded with the historic roots of the Korean revolution. People say that 10 years change the appearance of rivers and mountains. Our party has had a long period over which the appearance of rivers and mountains could change four to six times. In this historic period of our revolution, many things have changed in this land. The appearance of rivers and mountains has completely changed, and a great change has taken place in our country in the shift in generation.

The hair of the pioneers of the revolution who participated in the anti-Japanese armed struggle have already turned gray. The new generations, the second generation of the revolution, who were born in the period of building the party, the country, and the Army or were school children and who never experienced the arduous time of the anti-Japanese struggle, have grown up today as the main force of our party, state, and Army.

The new generations who have never seen landlords, capitalists, and straw sandals and who have never undergone the trials and difficulties during and after the Korean war, have appeared as the third generation of the Korean revolution. Thus, the generations have changed, and accordingly many other things have changed. However, the revolutionary spirit demonstrated in the period of pioneering our revolution is still invariably pulsing in this land generation after generation. The celebrations marking the 40th anniversary of national liberation, which were held in Pyongyang sometime ago with the participation of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-sung, were precisely the revolutionary demonstrations of the proud successors of the Korean revolution. The parade and the torch march, in which the second and third generations of the revolution as well as the pioneers of the revolution participated, were indeed a glorious and grand scene. The ranks of the grand torch march vigorously marched, holding the flags of the WPK and torches making the words "Unity with one mind," and singing the song "We Are the Successors of the Revolution."

The ranks of the torch march, the revolutionary ranks, proceeded with firm determination to follow the great leader and the party center and to advance toward the promising future. They proceeded to Kim Il-sung Square where the beacon fire on the top of the Tower of the Chuche Idea is visible, passing through the historic Triumphant Arch and Moranbong Hill where the Chollima Statue rises into the sky. A foreign cameraman who witnessed this grand scene said: This is indeed a great march of heroic proportions by a wise people. "Successors of the Revolution" is the valuable title of the second and third generations of our revolution and their descendants who have brought into bloom generation after generation the burning revolutionary spirit and pure loyalty of the pioneers of the revolution who have devoted their all, upholding the great leader as the sun. The words "Successors of the Revolution" precisely implies our infinite and boundless honor and pride in upholding the leader generation after generation and brilliantly inheriting the revolutionary cause of chuche, and comprehensively reflecting our people's firm faith and will to carry out this cause to the end by firmly uniting.

Comrade Kim Chong-il, member of the Presidium of the party Central Committee Political Bureau and secretary of the party Central Committee, has indicated: The revolutionary cause of the working class is a protracted task which should be continuously carried out generation after generation. What is important in continuously carrying out the revolution generation after generation is to have firm ranks of successors of the revolution. Our revolutionary ranks today are ranks of successors who have firmly inherited the anti-Japanese revolutionary tradition and the invincible ranks of successors who are advancing with the firm determination and will to carry out the chuche cause to the end.

Through not only books and films, but also through the ranks of our 10 million successors we can see, with great dignity and pride, the appearance of young communists who resolutely safeguarded and defended the leader of the revolution, sang songs of the revolution, and died for the revolution, engraving their ideals of socialist and communist construction and their firm faith for unity with one mind on the banner of the Down-With-Imperialism Union, the banner of the Korean revolution; the appearance of members of the Korean People's Revolutionary Army who devoted their hope, love, and passion for the fatherland and the revolution, burning their hearts of youth in the course of the bloody anti-Japanese revolutionary struggle and with the single heart of struggling for the revolution under the leadership of the general; and the appearance of ranks of iron-willed revolutionaries who fought in the forests of Mt Paektu with firm faith as the masters of the revolution to create a new world and as the masters of their own destinies.

The successors of the revolution, who have devoted their wisdom, energy, and all for the revolution, for national reunification, for the future of the nation, and for the construction of a paradise for mankind, advancing on the single road of history following the standard bearer of chuche while lifting up the ideal of completing the chuche cause as the banner of their struggle and with the firm faith and determination to complete the Korean revolution with their own efforts. The ranks of successors unite with one mind in which workers, farmers, party functionaries, economic functionaries, scientists, youths, and students uphold and follow the leader of the revolution with a single faith and will. The ranks of unity, as seen in celebration parades and massed gymnastics, are tens of thousands of people or millions of people moving as one breath! All these are precisely the ranks of our proud successors who are advancing, assuming responsibility for the Korean revolution.

People who visit the construction site of the Nampo lockgate cannot repress their amazement at its vast scale and miraculous exploits -- the construction site of the Nampo lockgate where the large-scale monumental structure is under construction, building the 20-ri long dam across the sea. Foreigners who visited the construction site praised the heroic exploits as the miracle of the heroic Korea in the eighties. What do we feel when we see the heroic epic construction of the lockgate? A construction worker, who became a labor hero after performing brilliant exploits by voluntarily jumping into the deep sea when the construction of the dam faced serious difficulties, said to our reporters: What I thought of while working under the sea was only my fatherland, not myself. We are the revolutionary fighters and the successors of the revolution who are struggling with the great spirit shown in the film, "Korea, We Will Glorify You."

The revolutionary faith to devote all for the party, the revolution, the fatherland, and the people and the burning hearts and zeal to find the value and honor of life in the single road of struggle for glorifying the fatherland eternally are vigorously echoing in our times and are highly pulsing in the hearts of the people. The traits in which all people are firmly united with one mind and advancing with burning zeal, aware that they are the successors of the revolution, are precisely the proud appearance of our successors. The succession of the revolutionary cause is the succession of leadership and loyalty. The successors of the revolution are the ranks of eternal loyalty which inherit the tradition of loyalty which took roots in Mt Paektu generation after generation.

Succession should be viewed in history. Succession is the succession of tradition which the nation and people of a country pass on and take over generation to generation, and the succession of history which connects the past and future. Loyalty to the leader is the basis of the victory of revolution and the succession of the revolutionary cause.

The succession of ideology and tradition and the succession of achievements and methods consist of one great succession, that is, loyalty to the leader. Today when we are adhering to and glorifying the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song's revolutionary idea and immortal achievements and the noble tradition of our revolution, the struggle of our successors is a noble struggle to inherit as one lineage the traditional loyalty of the revolutionary seniors who were endlessly loyal to the leader. Comrade Sim Chang-hwan, who suddenly left us several years ago while working as a political functionary in a central organization, used to tell the functionaries of the organization: We should know now to be loyal to the party and the leader before we expect to benefit from the parents who fought shedding blood. What is the most valuable inheritance our parents have bequeathed to us and we are supposed to bequeath to the coming generation? Is it position, honor, property? No. It is loyalty. Loyalty is the best inheritance.

Thinking that loyalty is the best inheritance and best wealth and gloriously inheriting the tradition of loyalty of the revolutionary seniors -- this is the firm faith of the successors of our revolution and the inexhaustible strength of our revolution. Today, the feature of our successors of revolution are the features of Kim Hyok who upheld the great leader like the sun. Today, there are many revolutionary fighters like Kim Hyok and Cha Kwang-su in our revolutionary ranks. Fascinated by the great leadership which creates a new world with extraordinary wisdom and bold operations, the fighters of the party keep the beautiful flowers of loyalty in full bloom with the rapture of greeting the sun on a spring day, with the firm pledge that they will remain faithful to the party forever. The indomitable fighters push through the revolutionary storm, taking after their leader in ideology, will, ambition, passion, boldness, magnanimity, and everything, full of faith and optimism. Many people who today uphold the great leader with faith and fidelity and uphold the party center indomitably are such successors and such cores of the party. These very cores of the party are increasing by the thousands in the central and provincial areas, in plants, rural areas, and everywhere across the country, defending the center of leadership and gloriously carrying out the will of the party and the leader.

The people of Nakwon, who, several months ago, succeeded in producing a large oxygen separator, have the honor of giving joy to the great leader and receiving the high praise of the party center. They upheld the high demand for the socialist construction in the 1980's and the task set forth by the party and the leader and made, in our own way and in a self-reliant manner, a large modern oxygen separator, which is said to be produced by only a few highly advanced countries. They said: Although it is a little hard for us, we should wage an arduous struggle and advance with faith for the coming generation and for the future of the fatherland. This is the will of the party and the leader and the tradition of Nakwon. Our tradition in Nakwon, whereby we made hand grenades during the war, had dud shells land by our chests, made water-pumps and cranes after the war, leading austere lives, thus upholding the great leader, should continue.

The inheritors of our revolution, who regard loyalty as the first lifeline and as the first legacy, like to use the words Chungsong, Chungwon, and Chungyong to denote loyalty when they name their twins that have been born in the cradle of happiness and ask their sons to show loyalty when they begin to embark on the road to social life after graduating from school.

When they see trees grow thick and fruit ripen richly over a period of time, people imagine brilliant sun rays and a fertile land.

The ranks of the inheritors of our revolution are a fertile land. The ranks of the inheritors of our revolution are in a fertile land that has continuously nurtured the thickly growing trees of the revolution, generation after generation, under the great sun and have made the fruit of loyalty continuously ripen. The faithful land, which, while ignoring the pleasure of plucking the fruits of the revolution borne by the pioneers of the revolution and by our predecessors, strives to make these fruits richly ripen, generation after generation, by valuing and sowing even a seed of these fruits and by growing the trees of the revolution thick -- this is our people and the ranks of the inheritor of our revolution. Although the natural land could be changed into a barren land with the passage of time, the land called the inheritor of the Korean revolution is a lasting fertile land that invariably nurtures trees of the revolution to help them bear rich fruits, no matter how much time may pass and no matter what storms may blow.

Have there ever been such a people in history as our people who have been faithful to the leader of the revolution, generation after generation, and to the work of inheriting the revolutionary cause? The inheritors only know one thing both during the periods of trial and glory, no matter how long time may pass and no matter what change may take place in the generations, and they advance straight toward inheriting a single tradition and the blood lineage of loyalty without knowing inconsistency or whim. Herein lies the great and proud trait and victorious strength of the inheritors of our revolution.

We cannot imagine the greatness of the party and the people only with the long history of the revolution and the party. Our party and the names of our inheritors shine today because we have invariably advanced, upholding the banner of the revolution, which was held during the pioneering period, no matter how much time may have passed and no matter what changes may have taken place in the generations.

The proud ranks of the inheritors exist for the great leader. The disposition of the inheritors is not inborn, and the blood lineage will not be inherited naturally like the blood lineage of a family. A son will not become a revolutionary because his father was a revolutionary. The pioneering of the revolutionary cause is difficult, and the work of inheriting and completing this cause is also difficult. There may be feelings of weariness on the protracted course of the revolution if something erroneous happens; there may be wavering because of a change in the situation; and we may be caught in easy-going feelings of conceit. The ranks, which have embarked on the road of advance, upholding the banner of revolution, can only reach the summit of final victory when they follow the great flag-bearer who continuously upholds this banner with an iron-clad will and with outstanding leadership. Today our party is a great flag bearer who has strived to brilliantly inherit and complete the chuche-type revolutionary cause, leading the van of our revolution.

How can we imagine the ranks of the proud inheritors today without the brilliant wisdom of historical truth on the inheritance and completion of the revolutionary cause of the working class, without the iron-clad will to develop the basis of a faith on the cross-road of the Korean revolution that Korea, the country of a brilliant morning, will be forever together with Mt Paektu and that, just as the flow of the Tuman River will last forever, the great leader's revolutionary idea will last forever in the time of the communist society; and without the great leadership of developing the new generation of the revolution while explaining, one by one, what is the inheritance of the revolution and what nature the faith and will of the inheritors should assume, upholding the noble intent of the great leader who revolutionarily awakened the oppressed people during the period of the anti-Japanese struggle by embracing them in his bosom and who organized the powerful ranks of the Korean revolution.

Of course, circumstances today differ from those of that day. What will be the circumstances of the future if we only desire to do things in an easy manner? People say that the revolutionary spirit might become weak when a change takes place over generations and when the revolution advances far. As for the replacement of the generations in our revolution during the past 40 years, a great change has taken place in the case of the Nagwon industrial machine complex alone. The 10 party members whose names have been brilliantly recorded in the history of our party have already departed from us or have become old men. The majority of the plant employees have become fathers and mothers after being brought up in the bosom of the party after liberation. They are young men who were born at a time when the epic of the Chollima age was being written.

As for the advance of our revolution over the past 40 years, a socialist system, suitable for comfortable living and free from exploitation and oppression, was established in this land under the wise leadership of the party and the leader, and an independent, self-reliant, self-defending, and powerful socialist country was founded. Our revolution advanced far, freeing ourselves from the position of wading in a muddy path. However, burning in the hearts of all of the new generation as well as in the second and third generations are loyalty displayed by Kim Hyok and his followers who held the great leader in high esteem like the sun, the passionate revolutionary spirit of our revolutionary predecessors who braved revolutionary storms without time to take off their shoes, and a will to tighten the shoestring of the revolution, following the great leader and ignoring comfortable living, and carrying out the revolution to the end by following the great leader.

What do we see at production work sites where reforms have been effected under the slogan "Production, study, and living in accordance with the style of the anti-Japanese guerrillas?" What do we experience at construction sites where feats have been performed under the banner urging all those concerned to become the Kim Hyoks and Cha Kwang-sus of our new generation singing the significant song of comradesly love at their wedding ceremony, from the fact that it is the fashion to sing a revolutionary song, looking up to Hanbyol and urging those concerned not to change their pledge rain or shine on the road of revolution, and from the meditation and practical activities of those who regard it honor for them to work wet with sweat on the single road of a worthwhile struggle with a single will not to make the blood shed by their parents useless?

Although change has taken place in the generations and in the world during the past 40 years, the revolutionary spirit developed in the forests of Mt Paektu and the blood lineage of loyalty have invariably overflowed in this land like a raging wave in a great river. The slogan calling for safeguarding the party center at the cost of one's life and the slogan calling for an absolute and unconditional nature, which can be witnessed at the blazing work sites of creation and construction and at the outpost of safeguarding the fatherland, reflect a burning will to inherit the tradition of loyalty shown by the anti-Japanese revolutionary martyrs and by the officers and men of the People's Army who safeguarded the command post of the revolution and unhesitatingly implemented the orders of the comrade commander-in-chief during the period of the anti-Japanese struggle and in the war.

Today we are living in the age of great creation and construction. How proud it will be for us to invariably inherit the tradition of loyalty shown by our revolutionary predecessors who safeguarded the center of leadership at the cost of their lives, while traversing the road of historic advance toward imbuing society with the chuche idea not on fierce and gruesome battle fields and not during the period of grim trials.

Today when our people are making a historic and magnificent march toward imbuing society with the chuche idea, holding the great leader in high esteem, we are once again excitedly experiencing the joyful and solemn feelings of looking up to, admiring, and revering the great leader as a legendary hero and a genius of creation and construction -- the feelings developed during the periods of the anti-Japanese struggle, of the disasters of war, and of the magnificent Chollima march.

Just as there are orbits of planets around the sun, there is the great march of our inheritors brilliantly inheriting and completing the chuche cause on a single and invariable road by uniting single-heartedly because of the presence of the great flag bearer, the great leader.

The road of the revolution -- the road of advance toward the ideal society of mankind -- is by no means smooth. On this road there may be fierce class struggles in which we could sacrifice our blood and lives; there may be high mountains that require our wisdom and sweat; and there may be muddy paths that urge us to tighten our belts and shoestrings. However, no matter how rough this road may be, the future path of our people and the inheritors of our revolution, who are firmly united around the glorious party center, holding the great leader in high esteem, will shine victoriously and gloriously.

History will record the burning resolve and will of our people to complete the chuche revolutionary cause by holding the great leader in high esteem with single-hearted loyalty on the footsteps of the ranks of our revolution, calling them the immortal inheritors of the revolution, and will convey the message of appreciation, generation after generation, that they are unwavering from beginning to end.

Cherishing feelings of this faith and will forever, our people will advance to the end toward the historic plaza of the fatherland's reunification and toward the high hill beautifully blazing with the spring twilight of mankind. The ranks of loyalty -- the ranks of the inheritors of the revolution and the ranks of lasting companions -- will reach the lofty summit of the completion of the chuche cause, the summit of history, while winning victories forever, upholding the banner of single-hearted unity -- the banner of down-with-imperialism -- and following the flag-bearer of chuche.

NODONG SINMUN VIEWS ARREST OF 'SPY' FROM SOUTH

SK300415 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 2153 GMT 29 Oct 85

[NODONG SINMUN 30 October commentary: "Harboring a Sinister Motive for Northward Invasion"]

[Text] It has been disclosed that Kim Po-kyom, a spy employed and dispatched by the U.S. imperialists and their lackeys, was arrested. As has been reported, this man infiltrated into the northern half of the republic with the mission of perpetrating terrorism and assassination and of collecting military secrets, and was arrested.

It is a well known fact that the collection of military secrets and the terrorism and assassination of cadres are only needed to provoke a war of northward invasion and disturb our rear area. It has been brought to light that the South Korean puppets, with the U.S. imperialists, have accelerated preparations for a war of northward invasion and have premeditatedly pushed ahead with operations of subversion and sabotage against the northern half behind the scenes of North-South dialogue.

While aspirations for easing tensions, achieving national rapprochement, and expediting reunification by advancing dialogue were growing higher than ever before among the compatriots of the North and South on the occasion of the 40th anniversary of national liberation, the Chon Tu-hwan ring viewed our republic with hostility and infiltrated a spy. This is obvious evidence showing that the puppets have no interest in North-South dialogue and that they only seek North-South confrontation. This is further confirmed by the situation prevailing in South Korea. Even though the Chon Tu-hwan ring has daily raved about southward invasion by the North, it has, indeed, prepared aggression.

As is known, the U.S. imperialists and the puppet clique newly mapped out an offensive strategy to attack us, drastically augmented the armed forces, reorganized them into offensive-type ones, and deployed 80 or 90 percent of the armed forces forward near the Military Demarcation Line so that they can turn to offensive operations at any moment. In anticipation of commando operations in our area, they have organized special units composed of as many as 180,000 men and have dug countless tunnels for northward invasion.

In addition, the U.S. imperialists and the Chon Tu-hwan clique, not content with the deployment of some 1,000 nuclear weapons in South Korea, have deployed 56 neutron bombs -- known as the weapon of the devil in the 20th century -- and have deployed nuclear backpacks, extremely small nuclear bombs, at U.S. bases. They are even hastening to drag B-52 strategic bombers and long- and medium-range offensive missiles, including cruise missiles and Pershing II missiles, to South Korea.

Due to collaboration between the U.S. imperialists and the puppets the production of various types of weapons and chemical weapons are being fully developed in South Korea. War exercises to attack the republic, including the "Team Spirit-85" war drill, have been waged daily in South Korea.

At the direction of the U.S. imperialists, the Chon Tu-hwan ring framed a plan to mobilize all human and material resources of South Korea for war, and has frequently staged exercises for their mobilization. On 27 October, the puppets began the provocative "Ssangyong-85" war exercise under the pretext of helping the home reservists master mobility and of increasing capabilities for their swift deployment to the front.

The U.S. imperialists and their lackeys have tried to infiltrate spies into the republic and have, indeed, done this through the Military Demarcation Line, the East and West Seas, and their countries. This is a desperate maneuver to carry preparations for a war of northward invasion into practice on the basis of their acceleration of such preparations.

What is ridiculous is that despite the fact that the puppets have prepared for northward invasion and have perpetrated maneuvers to infiltrate spies, they have clamored about so-called summer-time southward invasion, winter-time southward invasion, and infiltration through the green shade of trees. This is a brazen deception and an act of a thief yelling stop thief.

The Chon Tu-hwan ring has babbled as if they were interested in dialogue, talking about a direct North-South dialogue and so on. However, everything is false. The ring's babbling is a smoke screen to veil its war provocations maneuvers. All facts demand that alertness be increased against the reckless war maneuvers which the U.S. imperialists and the puppets are perpetrating behind the scenes of dialogue.

Even though we hope for dialogue and peace, we will never pardon the South Korean puppets if they look down on us and ignite fires.

BRIEFS

CHONGNYON DELEGATIONS -- Pyongyang October 27 (KCNA) -- A delegation of Ehime prefectural traders and industrialists of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan (Chongnyon) headed by Chong Yong-tok, chairman of the Ehime Prefectural Association of Traders and Industrialists of Chongnyon, arrived in Pyongyang on October 25 for a visit to the socialist homeland. Home-visiting groups of Koreans in Japan, the 85th short-term home-visiting group of Koreans in Japan and the song and dance troupe of Chongnyon left Wonsan on October 26 after visiting the socialist homeland. [Text] [Pyongyang KCNA English 1012 GMT 27 Oct 85 SK]

KWON CHONG-TAL'S NOTICE TO NORTH ON TALKS

SK300335 Seoul Domestic Service in Korean 0300 GMT 30 Oct 85

[Text] On 30 October, Kwon Chong-tal, chief delegate of our side to preliminary contact for North-South parliamentary talks, sent a telephone notice to Chon Kum-chol, head of the delegation of the North side, and clarified our side's stand toward the North's proposal for holding the third round of the preliminary contact on 1 November.

In his telephone notice, chief delegate Kwon Chong-tal made it clear that the regular session of our side's National Assembly is held for some three months, from 20 September to 8 December, and, during this period, the assemblymen should concentrate on all state activities, including the deliberations on the draft budget for next year, and said that, as soon as the regular session closes, our side will notify the North side the date for the third round of the preliminary contact.

On 25 October, the North Korean side proposed through the direct telephone link-up between the North and South that the third round of preliminary contact for North-South parliamentary talks be held at the conference room of the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission in Panmunjom on 1 November.

YI WON-KYONG: NO MILITARY TIES WITH JAPAN

SK291137 Seoul YONHAP in English 1035 GMT 29 Oct 85

[Text] Seoul, Oct 29 (OANA-YONHAP) --Yi Won-Kyong, South Korea foreign minister, said Tuesday there is no possibility that South Korea will establish a military tie-up with Japan, although close cooperation among Seoul, Tokyo and Washington is needed to maintain military stability in northeast Asia.

Yi made the remarks in a news conference here on Tuesday with 18 visiting Japanese journalists who have access to the Japanese Foreign Ministry

In the press conference, Yi said that the establishment of a military tie-up between Seoul and Tokyo will not be considered because security in northeast Asia is based on two axes -- the Korean-U.S. Mutual Defense Treaty and the Japanese-U.S. Defense Treaty -- and because Japan operates under a peace constitution, which restricts it to an "exclusively defensive posture."

Yi also said that in principle, it would be desirable for Japan's opposition Socialist Party to improve its relations with South Korean political parties on a long-term basis. In view of the Socialist Party's current position of recognizing Pyongyang but not Seoul, Yi said that the circumstances required to implement political exchanges between that party and South Korea's parties have not yet come about. The foreign minister pointed out that the Japanese Socialist Party has not recognized the Korea-Japan Basic Treaty signed in 1965. He also noted that the party maintains political relations with North Korea's communist Workers Party.

As a way of improving relations between South Korea and China, and between Japan and North Korea, it would be desirable on a long-term basis to open air routes between Seoul and Beijing, and between Pyongyang and Tokyo, Yi said. At the present time, however, the idea of opening the air routes is premature for all parties concerned, he added.

Yi called on the Japanese Government to make a fundamental improvement in Japan's controversial requirement that all Koreans living in Japan be fingerprinted.

FOREIGN MINISTER, U.S. ENVOY DISCUSS TRADE

SK291130 Seoul YONHAP in English 1030 GMT 29 Oct 85

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 29 (OANA-YONHAP) -- Yi Won-khong, Korean foreign minister, Tuesday told Richard Walker, U.S. ambassador to Korea, that Korea does not want the current trade frictions between the two countries to hurt the friendly relations between Seoul and Washington. Korea hopes that the two countries will narrow their differences on bilateral trade issues through negotiations, Yi said.

In a meeting between Yi and Walker in the capitol building here, the foreign minister expressed concern over the fact that trade problems between Seoul and Washington have become increasingly serious, due mainly to frequent and intensified investigations and protectionist measures by the U.S. Government. The balanced expansion of two-way trade yields mutual benefits, Yi said. Therefore, the Reagan administration should not concede to the protectionist pressure, but should make every possible effort to ease trade barriers against Korean-made products, he added.

Yi expressed the hope that the U.S. Government will veto the Jenkins bill if it passes the U.S. Senate. The House of Representatives has already passed the bill, which would restrict the importation of textile products from Korea, Taiwan and Hong Kong.

He also expressed regret over the recent decision by the U.S. Commerce Department to impose a high anti-dumping charge against photo albums imported from Korea. Yi called the decision "incomprehensible" and said that the U.S. Government should conduct an expedited review of the album issue, in order to prevent Korean businesses from being hurt. In response, Walker said he agreed with Yi that the current trade friction should be resolved smoothly, so as not to adversely affect overall Korean-U.S. relations.

The initiation by the U.S. Government of Section 301 of the U.S. Trade and Tariff Act was not made to retaliate against Korea, but to give the two countries an opportunity to negotiate ways to correct unfair trade practices in the fields of insurance and intellectual property rights, Walker said. Although there has been growing protectionist sentiment in the U.S. Congress, the Reagan administration is by no means planning to take protectionist measures, Walker added. He reminded Yi of the fact that Korea's exportation of footwear products to the United States has increased by 8 percent since the U.S. Government turned down a footwear protectionist bill last August.

GOVERNMENT PLANS TO REDUCE U.S. GRAIN IMPORTS

SK300201 Seoul YONHAP in English 0130 GMT 30 Oct 85

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 30 (OANA-YONHAP) -- The South Korean Government plans to reduce grain imports from the United States if Washington continues to regulate the importation of Korean commodities and to demand that the Korean market be opened more widely to U.S. goods, an official source said Wednesday.

Eighty percent of the 1.25 billion U.S. dollars worth of grains that Korea imports annually comes from the United States. Korea has already begun importing small quantities of grain from regions outside the United States, including Australia, South America and Southeast Asia, the source said. Because grain production in those regions has increased significantly in recent years, the climate for diversifying Korea's sources of imported grains is becoming increasingly favorable, the source said.

The Korean Government may be left with little choice but to shift its source of imported grain from the United States to the other regions if Washington continues to apply protectionist pressure against Korea, the source said. Last year, Korea imported 7.14 million tons of grains, worth 1.25 billion U.S. dollars. U.S. grain accounted for 5.34 million tons, valued of 988 million dollars, of the total. Korea is the United States' fourth largest grain customer.

ELECTION OF ASSEMBLY VICE SPEAKER ANALYZED

SK290119 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 29 Oct 85 p 4

[By Pak Mu-chong]

[Text] The surprising outcome of the election of a vice National Assembly speaker allotted for the main opposition New Korea Democratic Party has further worsened relations between ruling and opposition parties. Having been pitted acutely against each other since the beginning of the 12th-term National Assembly, the rival parties are certain to enter a phase of harsher confrontation during the rest of the current regular House session.

The election of Rep. Cho Yon-ha as a vice speaker against the NDP's formal nominee Rep. Yi Yong-hui not only humiliated party leaders, including president Yi Min-u, but dealt Kim-Tae-chung a decisive political blow. The affair breaking the parliamentary convention was produced by the ruling Democratic Justice Party with the help of at least 10 NDP lawmakers.

The DJP disgraced Kim Tae-chung who leads a major factional group of the NDP outside the party by making most of the opposition party's deep-rooted factional contest. Traditionally, the ruling party has supported the nominee of the largest opposition party for the seat of one of two vice speakers of the Assembly. However, the NDP's factional strife exposed in the allotment of major party and Assembly posts among major groups gave a chance to the DJP.

In accordance with a political dealing among the two major factions led by Kim Tae-chung and Kim Yong-sam, the "Sangdo-dong" group (of Kim Yong-sam) won the posts of party president and floor leader, while its rival the "Tonggyo-dong" faction (of Kim Tae-chung) secured the offices of secretary-general and a House vice speaker.

Vice speaker Kim Nok-yong from the Tonggyo-dong group died of cancer in May, and Kim Tae-chung was left to find his successor among its members. Outstanding among favorites was Rep. Cho, one of the closest aides of Kim Tae-chung for decades. Kim however, chose Rep. Yu Chae-yon, a less well-known legislator of three terms, to the surprise of the political world. Voices against the selection of Rep. Yu were heard first in the NDP, and some of its lawmakers such as Miss Kim Ok-son declared their running in the election.

Kim was learned to have chosen Yu in an attempt to curb the influence of Cho who is allied with Kim Sang-hyon, top brain of his faction, according to party sources. The DJP never lost a chance to deal a blow to Kim by taking issue with Yu's "qualification to be a vice speaker." Yu, who once had been accused of adultery, has a family relationship with Kim's wife. As the repercussion from both inside and outside of the party was so strong, Kim could not but replace "his" nominee.

The controversy of Kim's first choice had already delayed the election which was originally scheduled to take place during a special house session in August.

His second nominee was not Cho, but Yi Yong-hui, who was appointed as party secretary general two months ago. The selection of Yi was confirmed last week. But, the new nomination also triggered repulsion from party members, including Cho and the lady lawmakers, and Pak Hae-chung jointed them as a candidate.

Kim's idea was to compensate Yu with the post of secretary-general held by Yi. His plan brought about sharp criticism of many lawmakers one of whom argued, "The NDP is not his private party." Despite the NDP's request to support Yi, the DJP did not give any commitment to vote for Yi, noting that the NDP failed to put up a single candidate. But, the election ended up in a shocking result, unprecedented in the nation's parliamentary history.

The election will also bring about a serious aftermath to the NDP itself. The internal strife between the Sangdo-dong and Tonggyo-dong groups will certainly be intensified. Yi Yong-hui's defeat will impose big burdens on party head Yi Min-u belonging to the Sangdo-dong faction.

The first fallout from the election was the resignation of Rep. Kim Tong-yong as the floor leader. He is a close aide of Kim Yong-sam. The NDP leaders' feeling of being humiliated by the DJP will spur on the party's political offensives against the latter such as the campaign for constitutional amendment to reintroduce direct election of the president, according to political observers. They forecast that the house standing committee which will begin activities from today will experience particularly rough sailing.

On the part of the DJP, the election of Cho as a vice speaker has left a big burden to solve the expected political impasse with the parliament's most important work of deliberating on the budget bill in the near future.

ASSEMBLY SPEAKER SEEKS END TO POLITICAL DEADLOCK

SK300124 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 30 Oct 85

[Text] Assembly speaker Yi Chae-hyong met separately with the leaders of rival parties at his office yesterday to discuss ways of resolving the political deadlock resulting from Monday's election of a vice speaker. No Tae-u, chairman of the ruling Democratic Justice Party, visited Speaker Yi in the afternoon and asked him to do his best to help normalize the stalled regular session.

No said that he expressed regret over the unexpected result of Monday's election of an Assembly vice speaker. The chairman of the ruling party said it will take some time for the rival political parties to sit together to resume talks for the normalization of the stalled session.

Shortly after No left the speaker's office, Yi Min-u, president of the main opposition New Korea Democratic Party, dropped in on Yi to talk about the overall political situation following Monday's election.

In the meeting that lasted for about 40 minutes, Yi Min-u said he expressed his indignation and disappointment over the ignominious breach of political trust by the DJP.

Asked if he would meet with chairman of the ruling party to solve current deadlock, the 70-year-old politician flatly excluded the possibility of meeting him in the near future.

In the meantime, DJP floor leader Yi Se-ki also met with Speaker Yi Chae-hyong and expressed his worries over the present political stalemate.

FURTHER ON ARREST OF 26 CAMPUS, LABOR ACTIVISTS

SK300143 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 30 Oct 85 p 1

[Text] The Seoul District Prosecutor's Office announced yesterday the arrest of 26 people on charges of organizing a group sympathetic to north Korea and instigating violent campus unrest and labor disputes. All but one of those under arrest are graduates, expellees or students of Seoul National University [SNU], the announcement said. It said the 26 persons include seven SNU students who have already been arrested and are being tried for producing an underground publication, call "Kitpal."

According to the announcement, 24 of them are charged with violating the National Security Law with the remaining two accused of either violating the law governing assembly and demonstration or harboring a criminal suspect. In addition, three other persons were booked without physical detention and 17 others are being sought on similar charges.

Prosecutors said all of those suspects belonged to a pro-Communist organization, called the "Committee for Promotion of Democracy." The group, called "Minchuwi" in Korean, differs from a political organization having the same English initials, the Minchuwi (Council for Promotion of Democracy) co-chaired by Kim Yong-sam and Kim Tae-chung.

Prosecutor Choe Hwan, chief of the Public Security Division, described the committee as "an underground pro-Communist organization with leftist leanings." "The organization's professed doctrine, called national democratic revolution, is very similar to North Korea's revolutionary theory and strategy for unifying the Korean peninsula," Choe told reporters.

Announcing the results of the probe into radical student groups, he said, those suspects "pulled the strings" for about 20 violent protest rallies on and off college campuses since Oct. 7 last year when Minchuwi came into being. Arrested include Mun Yong-sik, 26, his wife Hwang Kyong-hui, 23, Pak Mun-sik, 27, and his wife Sok Min-chu. Mun, alleged to be Minchuwi leader, dropped out of Seoul National University in his third year as a Korean history major, while Pak was expelled from the same school in his fourth year as an economic major. Those rallies spearheaded by Minchuwi included the Nov. 14, 1984, sit-in at the head office of the ruling Democratic Justice Party, the May 23-26 seizure of the USIS library in Seoul and a street demonstration in support of striking workers at the Daewoo Apparel Co. in Seoul April 27.

Prosecutor Choe said Minchuwi had connections with such underground student groups as the National Federation of Student Associations and its sub-group, known as the Sammin Struggle Committee (Sammintu). "Our investigation proved that Minchuwi is a pro-Communist organization which is committed to antisocial activities and suspected of serving the interests of the enemy under the guise of its purported struggle for the democratization of the nation," Choe said.

Prosecutor Choe said Kim Kun-tae, 38, a graduate of Seoul National University and former chairman of the Youth Association for Democratic Movement (YADM), has already been arrested and charged with violating the National Security Law. He said the YADM is a dissident organization which has been supervising activities of Minchuwi led by Mun. Kim founded the organization consisting of former members of radical student groups in 1983 in a deliberate scheme to influence student activists with revolutionary ideologies, prosecution sources said.

A self-professed revolutionary, Kim has four elder brothers who defected to north Korea before and after the outbreak of the Korean War (1950-53), they said. Five of his distant relatives also moved to north Korea around that time.

Kim allegedly harbors the idea that any revolution in the country can come only through united efforts by workers and students imbued with revolutionary theories. In his belief, prosecutors said, Kim provided Mun with ideological indoctrination and assisted him in organizing Minchuwi as an "advance group" for conducting a systematic struggle against the current political system.

Meanwhile, Pak Mun-sik is suspected of playing a key role in organizing Minchuwi under a secret agreement with Mun that he would lead a labor movement, while Mun would spearhead a student movement. Prosecutors said Minchuwi has masterminded student-led labor strikes Seoul, Inchon and other large cities on many occasions since its founding on October last year.

In a related action, the Inchon District Prosecutor's Office recently arrested three suspected Minchuwi members for inciting labor strikes since last October. Thirty-four other Minchuwi members are under investigation, prosecutors said. Prosecutors said they began the probe into Minchuwi in the wake of a rash of protest rallies in the spring season. They said investigators confiscated 399 kinds of "seditious" publications and other items from the accused members of Minchuwi as evidence against them.

FISHERIES OFFICE EXTENDS LIMITS IN TWO SEAS

SK290842 Seoul YONHAP in English 0823 GMT 29 Oct 85

[Text] Seoul, Oct 29 (OANA-YONHAP) -- The Office of Fisheries today allowed Korean fishermen to operate 10 miles farther out in the Yellow Sea and East China Sea, it was reported. The daily TONG-A ILBO said that by extending the fishery restriction line 10 miles westward, the office expanded the fishing zone by 18,000 square kilometers. The additional fishing area is expected to yield 23,000 tons of butterfish, hairtails, blue crabs and shrimp, the paper quoted sources at the office as saying.

The fishery restriction line was established in the Yellow Sea in April 1978 to ensure the safety of Korean fishing vessels. The line was moved 20 miles eastward one year later. The new line is 40 miles east of the Chinese-Japanese fishery line, set by Beijing and Tokyo in 1965.

ASIAN-PACIFIC BROADCASTING UNION ASSEMBLY OPENS

SK290855 Seoul YONHAP in English 0816 GMT 29 Oct 85

[Text] Seoul, Oct 29 (OANA-YONHAP) -- About 300 delegates from broadcasting companies in 46 countries are attending the 22nd General Assembly of the Asian-Pacific Broadcasting Union (ABU), which opened here Tuesday.

In a congratulatory address to the General Assembly, Yi Won-hong, South Korean culture and information minister, said that broadcasters in the Asian-Pacific region should play a constructive role in promoting domestic social integrity based on national trust, and, at the same time, should take the lead developing a regional community. "The challenges that lie ahead of us today are innumerable and difficult to resolve..." he said. "I believe we could achieve more desirable results if our regional countries dealt with the problems through close cooperation, exchanging the experiences and wisdom they have accumulated."

During the three-day conference, the General Assembly is scheduled to discuss the exchange of news, including information about the 1986 Asian Games and the 1988 Summer Olympics, both to be held in Seoul; and other topics, including communication satellites, the expansion of the ABU popular song contest, the ABU radio festival of folk music and broadcasting technologies.

DOCUMENT ISSUED ON FOREIGN RELATIONS 1975-85

Part I

BK251115 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 0530 GMT 19 Oct 85

['Memoire on Foreign Policy and International Activites of Lao Party and Government: We Have Concentrated All Efforts on Consolidating and Strengthening Militant Solidarity, Special Relations and All-around Cooperation Between Laos and Vietnam and Among Laos, Vietnam, and Cambodia" -- date not given]

[Text] After having defeated the imperialist aggressors and abolishing the feudal system, the Lao people have entered a new era -- the era of independence, freedom, and socialism. In the new period of the revolution, the Lao party and Government have pursued a foreign policy of peace, independence, friendship, and socialism, aimed at serving the tasks of defending and building the country, especially at correctly implementing the adopted at the third party congress and by the party Central Committee.

Over the past 10 years, we have scored great success on the international battle front, thus contributing to fulfilling the two strategic duties of the Lao revolution, raising our status and role in the international arena, contributing to profoundly changing the political situation in Southeast Asia for the benefit of peace and stability, and positively contributing to world peace and revolution.

The past 10 years have been symbolized by fine developments in all fields with a new quality in the special relations between Laos and Vietnam and among the three Indochinese countries. The victory scored by the Cambodian revolution in smashing the genocidal regime in 1979 has created successive favorable strategic postures for the revolutions in the three countries and has served to restore and develop the traditional relations among the three parties and peoples to advance together toward socialism. The treaty on friendship and cooperation and the agreement on economic and cultural cooperation between Laos and Cambodia have been signed. The first summit meeting among the three countries, held in February 1983 on the basis of the unification on the strategic and tactical issues of the revolutions in the three countries and the determination of the three parties and people to continue to strengthen the solidarity, cooperation and relations among the three countries in the new period of the revolution, has defined the principles with regard to each country's independence and sovereignty and on advancing together toward socialism. It has also outlined the direction and forms for developing the relations, solidarity, and all-round cooperation among the three countries.

While coordinating and cooperating with one another in pursuing foreign policy and maintaining public security, the three sides have also effectively strengthened their relations and cooperation in the economic, cultural, scientific, and technical fields in the initial stage, thus increasing the strength of each country and the consolidated strength of all the three countries and facilitating the growth and development of each of the three countries. The exchanges of visits by the party and state delegations, the meetings to exchange views among the top-level leaders, the plenary meetings of the foreign ministers of the three countries, the meetings of delegations of economic and cultural cooperation organizations of the three countries, and the meetings of delegations of ministries and services at the central and regional levels between the two countries and among the three countries have served to further forge a sense of mutual sympathy among them. The mutual trust and fraternal relations among the three countries, which have consulted with one another in implementing mutual plans and methods, in rectifying weak points and promoting strong points, in overcoming all difficulties, and in smashing all subversive schemes of the enemies have brought successive victories to the task of defending and building socialism in each country.

There is no other period when the posture and force of the revolutions in the three countries has been as strong as today. There has been no other period in which the militant solidarity, special relations, and all-round cooperation among Laos, Vietnam, and Cambodia were so vigorously enhanced as they are today. As a result, the socialist outpost in Southeast Asia has been securely safeguarded and the tremendous value of peace in this region consistently enhanced and developed.

The realities of the revolutions in our country and in fraternal Vietnam and Cambodia over the past 10 years have once again testified to the utmost significance of the relations among the three parties and peoples, which has become the law for development of the revolutions in the three countries -- countries which fought for national liberation in the past and are energetically carrying out the tasks of national defense and construction at present.

As for our people, we have received tremendous effective cooperation, assistance and support from Vietnam and Cambodia. At the same time, we have also tried our best to fulfill our internationalist obligations toward these two fraternal countries. This development clearly shows that the lines and policy of solidarity adopted by the three parties and states are correct and just. Our party and state policy of turning to the east is a strategic plan which has caused a vigorous change in the ideological thinking and a new method of working among our party members. Though plagued by numerous difficulties, all branches of work at all levels have created certain positive and important fundamental favorable conditions for our development.

At present, one of the important conditions facilitating the growth and development of the Lao revolution is the strengthening of solidarity and all-round cooperation with the Soviet Union. Thanks to the efforts made by the two sides in the past 10 years, the relations between the two countries have created a new trend. The Soviet Union has come to understand Laos' capability and has rendered assistance and all-round cooperation in accordance with the reality in this country. The two countries have exchanged visits by delegates, rendered assistance to each other, and exchanged views with each other in the international arena.

The LPDR fully supports the Soviet Union's principled foreign policy and constructive initiatives aimed at strengthening peace and stability of all countries. The Soviet side fully supports the initiatives advanced by the three Indochinese countries, aimed at turning Southeast Asia into a region of peace, stability, and cooperation. The frequent visits to the Soviet Union by Comrade Kaysone Phomvihane to meet Soviet leaders, especially his meeting with Comrade Gorbachev in late August this year, are extremely significant to the relations between the two countries for they serve to further strengthen Lao-Soviet relations. The Soviet assistance to Laos in the past 10 years is enormous and very significant.

The relations between the LPDR and the fraternal socialist countries have been established and developed on the basis of Marxism Leninism. Following Comrade Kaysone Phomvihane's official friendship visits to the fraternal socialist countries in 1976 and 1982, they have rendered effective assistance and cooperation to our country. The GDR, Hungary, Bulgaria, the CSSR, the MPR and Cuba have made great efforts to implement the friendship treaties and agreements on economic, cultural, scientific, and technical cooperation they have signed with Laos in order to help the Lao people boost production in the agricultural, industrial, forestry, transport, and communication fields, fulfilling numerous development projects in this country, thus improving the living conditions of our people and building more material foundations for the socialist construction in Laos.

We clearly understand the Polish support to the revolutionary cause in our country. In the meantime, we also sympathize with the fraternal Polish party and people who are currently faced with difficulties. That is why the implementation of the agreement on economic and cultural cooperation between the two countries has been temporarily suspended. In the past 2 years, we have attentively carried out certain movements to normalize our relations with Albania after that country made positive changes in its attitude and policy toward China and rendered support to the revolutions in the three Indochinese countries for the common cause of opposing imperialism and reactionaries, for the victory of peace, national independence, democracy, and socialism, and for the defense of the purity of Marxism-Leninism.

In addition to developing party-to-party and state-to-state relations with the Soviet Union and the fraternal socialist countries, our people have also developed and maintained fine relations with the peoples in those countries. We have also paid close attention to promoting relations with the parties in the international communist and workers movements, which have not yet taken control of the ruling power, as well as the people who advocate the communist cause. We have sent delegations to attend meetings of party secretariat staffs of fraternal parties on ideological work on several occasions, international conferences on international issues, and plenary congresses of the parties and mass organizations of several countries. We have invited the delegations of the parties and mass organizations of numerous countries to visit our country.

Through such visits, the delegations of the two sides have informed each other of the situation of each side and have exchanged views on each side's stand on and attitude toward international issues, thereby strengthening and increasing mutual understanding and sympathy, strengthening mutual solidarity, unification, and support to the revolutionary cause of the parties and peoples in many countries in the world, and contributing to strengthening the solidarity and unification in the international communist and workers movements by clearly understanding the complex and difficult nature of the attempt to resolve remaining differences in the movements themselves and to thwart cruel subversive schemes and acts of the forces hostile to Marxism-Leninism. Our party and people, who have actually carried out triumphant revolutionary deeds and possess their own capacities, have made efforts step by step to contribute to strengthening and consolidating the solidarity within the international communist and workers movements.

Part II

BK251413 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 0530 GMT 20 Oct 85

[Text] Together with progressive mankind, we solemnly condemn the imperialists' invasion of Grenada and the Falkland Islands. We have followed with profound interest and voiced vigorous support for the Palestinian people's struggle to gain their fundamental national rights and their right to set up an independent state of Palestine in their native land. We have supported the struggle of the Arab people against the interference and aggression and the imperialists and the Israeli expansionists. We have resolutely supported the Afghan people's struggle in opposition to acts of interference and aggression of the imperialists and international reactionaries to safeguard the fruits of the April Revolution and determinedly lead the country to march along the path of socialism. We have sympathized with and fully supported the peoples of Angola and Mozambique who are facing great difficulties both at home and from abroad and supported the heroic Nicaraguan people in their struggle against all acts of sabotage, threat, interference, and aggression of the U.S. imperialists. We have expressed solidarity with the voiced full support for the Salvadoran and Chilean people, genuine patriotic struggle movements. We have supported the Namibian and South African peoples' opposition to the South African racists. We have expressed on many occasions our hope for a prompt end to the Iraq-Iran war, because we see that it will only bring serious pain and losses to the peoples of the two countries and that it will be beneficial only to the imperialists and international reactionaries.

Our country is a full member of the Nonaligned Movement, the movement which now comprises most countries in the world and which has maintained an ever firmer voice in the international community. We, together with Vietnam, Cuba, and other active member countries, have sought to consolidate the solidarity and unity of the movement and to check the schemes of the imperialists and reactionaries who want to make the movement to stand in the middle of the two groups and whose true aim is to oppose the socialist and progressive forces and to disrupt the unity of the movement. We have also firmly maintained the goals of the movement, namely solidarity in opposition to imperialism, the consolidation of the political independence and the gaining of economic independence for all countries, the eradication of intimidatory, unjust, and unequal economic relations resulting from imperialist control, and the establishment of a new, equal, and just economic order.

We have highly appreciated and wholeheartedly hailed the positive activities, effective words, and great contributions of India under the former leadership of Mrs Indira Gandhi and the present leadership of Rajiv Gandhi in connection with the Nonaligned Movement, peace, and stability in Asia and Southeast Asia. India has provided wholehearted assistance and support for Laos. We have daily promoted and expanded the neighborly relations with Burma. The peoples of the two countries have maintained long-standing traditional relations and have now better, mutual understanding.

In past years, our Lao people have, together with the peoples of various socialist countries and progressive people throughout the world, resolutely struggled to safeguard peace and have smashed the danger of war caused by the imperialists. At the same time, we have struggled to create an atmosphere of detente in the world as well as in Southeast Asia. We profoundly appreciate the achievements in maintaining peace over the past 40 years. These achievements have resulted from the common struggle of progressive people in the world. These achievements are of great significance. Due to a high level of scientific and technical development and the balance of revolutionary and counter-revolutionary forces at present, if a world war arises, it might be a nuclear war.

It is therefore, certain that a new world war -- if it breaks out -- will lead to the extermination of mankind. We have come to understand the earnest aspiration and the enormous strength of all forces for peace, the forces which have checked various adventurous and absurd acts and designs of the U.S. imperialists and which have raised the possibilities for the consolidation and the safeguarding of peace and tranquillity in the world. We have supported any and all peace initiatives for an end to the arms race and an end to the danger of war, be it on land, sea, or in space, to maintain the existence and life of mankind.

At present, we consider this issue a significant and basic duty of various nations throughout the world. Implementing a foreign policy of peacefully coexisting with all countries regardless of differences in political, economic, and social systems, we maintain relations with many capitalist countries including Australia, the Netherlands, Japan, the FRG, New Zealand, and Italy. We have maintained cooperation and relations have been consolidated after having been broken off for many years. Laos and France have made initial efforts toward consolidating their relations and cooperation in the economic and cultural fields. Lao relations with Britain have deteriorated daily following the closure by the British Government of its embassy in Vientiane, an act which led to the closure of the Lao Embassy in London by our Lao Government in return. Our country's relations with certain West European countries, such as Belgium, Austria, Spain, and Switzerland in the recent past have been normal.

In recent years, we have tried to pursue a policy to establish the relations between the Indochinese and ASEAN countries in order to coexist peacefully and maintain good friendly and neighborly relations with each other so as to settle together all problems concerning the two groupings through talks and to move toward turning Southeast Asia into a region of peace, stability, friendship, and cooperation. The Indochinese countries have proposed to the ASEAN countries the signing of bilateral or multilateral agreements on the respect of one another's sovereignty and territorial integrity, nonaggression, noninterference in one another's internal affairs, nonuse of territory by another country for aggression and interference in other countries, equal rights, and mutual interests. But, in the recent years, certain countries in the ASEAN group have, in different levels, followed the Chinese policy of opposing the three Indochinese countries and rejecting their creative proposals.

Part III

BK261208 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 0530 GMT 21 Oct 85

[Text] The LPDR and the Kingdom of Thailand are two neighboring countries whose peoples have enjoyed close relations since ancient times. Since the establishment of the LPD, we have paid close attention to developing and maintaining good-neighborly relations between the two countries and to maintaining and strengthening fraternal relations between the Lao and Thai peoples. However, relations between the two countries have run into difficulties and are seriously deteriorating. The relations between the two countries were gradually improving when Thailand was under the leadership of His Excellency Kriangsak Chamanan, when the governments of the two countries signed joint communiques in February and August 1979, emphasizing the principles governing relations between the two countries, which then needed to be further strengthened. Some aspects of the communiques were implemented, such as those involving trade, the transport of transit goods, increasing civil aviation contacts, and sales and purchases of electricity. Nevertheless, since the beginning of the Prem administration, relations between the two countries have gradually deteriorated and become even more tense. More serious still, over the past (24) years, especially since the Thai Armed Forces began their aggression against the three Lao villages in June 1984, relations seriously worsened with each passing day. The cause of the worsening situation stems from the pan-Thai doctrine applied by the ultrarightist reactionaries in the Thai ruling circles, who have closely colluded with the Beijing big-nation expansionists-hegemonists and have opening exploited Chinese-U.S. relations to oppose the LPDR and the other Indochinese countries.

We have always abided by our pledges to Thailand and demand that the Thai side do likewise. We have to fight on all fronts against the Thai side's aggression against the three Lao villages to defend our sovereignty and territorial integrity. We demand that the Thai Government cooperate with our government in resuming negotiations to restore and normalize relations between the two countries in response to the aspirations and interests of the peoples in the two countries and, at the same time, to contribute to safeguarding peace and stability in this region. In the past few years, the Philippines and Singapore have frozen their diplomatic relations with Laos. The Philippines closed its embassy in Vientiane 2 years ago. In face of the victories of the revolutions in the three Indochinese countries and in the wake of a setback to the policy of the Chinese big-nation expansionists-hegemonists and their henchmen to oppose the Indochinese countries, some ASEAN countries have come to realize more clearly that it is Chinese big-nation expansionism-hegemonism that is becoming a lasting threat to the countries in Southeast Asia. As a result, they are now trying to separate themselves from China's policy and have agreed to negotiate to find solutions to the Cambodian problem and other problems in Southeast Asia.

A case in point is the recent attitude of Indonesia and Malaysia -- the countries that have maintained (?official) relations and cooperation with Laos throughout the past year. We are trying to maintain relations of peaceful coexistence and good-neighborliness between Laos and the other Indochinese countries on the one hand and the ASEAN countries on the other.

In the past few years, though encountering numerous difficulties, we have maintained good relations with international organizations and have succeeded in certain areas. In addition to acquiring additional political support, we have also received some technical and material assistance from them in training our specialized technical cadres, thus greatly benefiting the building of our socialist nation.

Part IV

BK281120 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 0530 GMT 22 Oct 85

[Text] The U.S. Administration has continuously pursued a hostile policy toward Laos and the other Indochinese countries. It has ceaselessly carried out slanderous propaganda and other activities against our people. The United States has not abandoned its collusion with China in opposing Laos and the other countries in Indochina. While calling on the United States to end its hostilities toward Laos and resolutely struggling against the U.S.-Chinese collusion in opposing national independence, peace, and stability in this region, we still maintain the diplomatic relations with the United States at the charge d'affaires level. Implementing a humanitarian policy, and leaving behind the dark past in connection with relations between the two countries, we have been providing conveniences for the U.S. side in seeking information about the American MIA's and searching for the remains of American soldiers who were killed during the war of aggression in Laos and other Indochinese countries. Our Lao people have always respected the friendly relations with the progressive American people and have been prepared to normalize relations with the United States on the basis of the principles of peaceful coexistence and call on the U.S. Government to appropriately implement these principles in actual practice.

We have always appreciated the policy of improving the good neighborly, friendly relations with the Chinese people and we have concentrated all energies on translating it into reality. Simultaneously, we have resolutely struggled to check the hostile policy implemented by the reactionaries in the Chinese ruling circles toward Laos and the other Indochinese countries. Over the past 10 years or so, Lao-Chinese relations have deteriorated as a result of China's implementation of a big-nation expansionist and hegemonist policy. It is, therefore, the Chinese side which is solely responsible for the deterioration of the relations. However, our country has continued to maintain diplomatic relations with China at the charge d'affaires level. This is for the interests of the peoples of the two countries and in the interest of peace and stability in Southeast Asia and Asia.

The LPDR and the PRK have, on many occasions, proposed the signing of noninterference agreements with China. They have also announced their preparedness to establish normal relations with the PRC on the basis of respect for each other's independence, sovereignty, and territorial integrity, noninterference in internal affairs, equality, and mutual interest, and to settle together all problems in connection with relations through peaceful talks. It is regrettable that until now, the correct and just stand and attitudes of Laos have not yet been responded to by China. Through the implementation of the correct foreign line and policy and through the endeavors in carrying out international activities of our party and state over the past 10 years, we have scored great achievements in the foreign affairs field. The LPDR is a small country with a small population and was not known in the international arena in the past. Today, our Lao nation and people have become a pure member of the strength of the socialist community, and of the international communist-worker movement.

Our Lao nation now stands in the ranks of various leading nations in the resistance against imperialists and international reactionaries. Our Lao country is an active member of the Nonaligned Movement and has stood in the indomitable contingent of various forces struggling for peace, national independence, democracy, and social progress in Southeast Asia and the rest of the world.

At present, our Lao country maintains diplomatic relations with 66 countries. We have 16 diplomatic offices in 15 countries -- there are two offices in the United States, one is the embassy and another is the office of the Lao representative to the United Nations. At the same time, these offices have additional responsibilities in 30 other countries. This means that they are in charge of performing duties and presenting credentials in those countries. In our country, there are representational offices of 25 countries --the Palestinian representation and 24 embassies -- together with the offices of six UN organizations and five private organizations in Vientiane.

These achievements in the foreign field have significantly contributed to creating favorable conditions for us to draw broad support and assistance from the international community for the cause of national defense and socialist construction in our country. They have also proved the correct, clear-sighted, and initiative of the LPRP headed by beloved and respected Comrade General Secretary Kaysone Phomvihane and proved the correctness of the resolutions of the third party congress and of our party Central Committee.

PASASON CRITICIZES REAGAN'S SPEECH TO UN

BK300845 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 0500 GMT 30 Oct 85

[30 October PASASON commentary: "Reagan's True Nature of Opposing Peace"]

[Text] On 24 October, U.S. President Reagan made a speech at the United Nations on the occasion of the 40th founding anniversary of this international organization. Reagan's speech runs counter to the trend as well as to the public opinion in various nations throughout the world. It is also contrary to Reagan's actual deeds. In his speech, Reagan discussed two major issues which he regarded as noteworthy. The first one that Reagan pretentiously pointed out is the urgent international problem -- the problem of the arms race. The various nations throughout the world must oppose the arms race together, both on earth and in space, and proceed to destroying those arms completely. The other issue pointed out by Reagan is the issue of the power struggle in the world, a contention which is actually the revolutionary struggle carried out by various nations against the reactionaries -- the lackeys of the U.S. imperialists.

To have the scheme move forward as planned, Reagan took a long time preparing his speech, intending to obscure his background from the world's people. In fact, each day, people in many countries suffer disasters as a result of Reagan's plots, including those people in Nicaragua, Angola, Afghanistan, Cambodia, and others. Reagan shamelessly made an allegation against the Soviet Union, saying the way in each region of the world is the result of Soviet intervention or intervention of Soviet allies. Reagan reiterated his continued assistance to forces struggling for democracy, which are actually counterrevolutionary, reactionary forces in Nicaragua, Afghanistan, Angola, Cambodia, and other regions.

Reagan resorted to words to deceive the leaders of various nations throughout the world. He said the basic issue to be raised for discussions during the U.S.-Soviet summit meeting next month would be the issue on the regional struggles for power and not the issue on controlling nuclear weapons or reducing the various types of weapons.

This has once again clearly shown Reagan's true nature of opposing peace. It is also a deception professionally carried out by Reagan with the intention of keeping the world people in the dark. Reagan hopes that the words he expressed in the international arena on this occasion can turn the world's attention away from the tense international situation -- the opposition to the arms race. If so, the U.S. ruling circles will be able to shirk their responsibility over the aspiration of the world people who demand that the United States put an end to its arms race and to its cruel strategic defense initiative plan which will lead mankind and world civilization to disaster.

In his speech, Reagan also arrogantly slandered the noble objectives of the national liberation movements and struggles to safeguard national independence, including the struggle of the people in Nicaragua, Angola, Afghanistan, Cambodia, and others to smash all sabotage schemes of the reactionaries -- U.S. lackeys -- and to defend the revolutionary gains. Through these words, Reagan continues to seek means of suppressing the governments of various independent countries. Such acts are considered brutal and barbarous and threaten the stability of all countries in the world. Through his words, Reagan has also created difficult conditions for the coming U.S.-Soviet summit meeting in Geneva. All these words are in line with his schemes to obstruct the struggles against oppression and intimidation and for social progress in various nations.

In fact, we can see that the Reagan administration has waged undeclared wars against Nicaragua and Afghanistan. The tense situations in Central America, the Middle East, South Africa, Southeast Asia, and other regions stem from the interference in all forms carried out by the U.S. imperialists. Lying within the U.S. global counterrevolutionary strategy, Southeast Asia has been constantly affected by the repercussions created by the bloody hands of the U.S. imperialist warmongers and their allies. Reagan has not permitted the countries in Southeast Asia to settle problems by themselves. Moreover, he has continued rendering support and assistance to the reactionary Cambodian groups and the Bangkok ruling circles to oppose the revival of a new life by the Cambodian people. He is the mastermind instigating a confrontation between ASEAN and the Indochinese countries. He has destroyed the fruitful trend toward negotiation in this region and has opposed any acts supporting the consistent, just, and correct policy of the Indochinese countries to settle the Cambodian problem and subsequently turn Southeast Asia into a zone of peace, stability, friendship, and cooperation.

Even though Reagan tried to pretentiously tone down his speech at the United Nations, he failed to cover up his warmongering nature as the most ardent advocate of the arms race in all spheres, especially in the military field. [as heard] His action runs counter to the epochal aspirations for peace and peaceful cooperation. All the nations of the world maintain constant vigilance in face of the notorious U.S. policy. All of them know that they must unite closely in the movement fighting against Reagan's warmongering policy, support the correct proposals of the Soviet Union to save mankind from the catastrophe of war, and demand that Reagan be truly sincere in responding to the reasonable proposals of the Soviet Union to make the high-level meeting between the Soviet Union and the United States in the coming month a success in accordance with the aspirations of all nations.

PREM AIDE VIEWS TRADE, TIES WITH USSR, U.S.

BK290145 Bangkok THE NATION in English 29 Oct 85 p 5

[Text] About 150 workers from the Labour Congress of Thailand (LCT) yesterday rallied in front of the Government House to urge the government to adopt a more liberal garment export policy to counter U.S. protectionism against Thai products. The workers, carrying banners, also called for retaliatory measures by cutting back imports from the U.S. They said such measure could be carried out collectively by countries in the region.

The workers were led by vice president of the LCT Thanong Pho-an who submitted an open letter to Premier Prem Tinsulanon through his [assistant] secretary general Rear Adm Prakop Wasinon. The letter, copies of which were also made available to the press, said the government should adopt a more liberal trade policy so that Thailand can do business with all other countries regardless of their ideological differences. "We should give more importance to economic benefits we can get. A liberal trade policy would enable Thailand to open more foreign markets both in the neighboring countries and socialist countries," the letter said. The call for a more liberal trade policy was made after the Soviet Union had proposed to buy ready-made garments from Thailand.

Thanong said Thailand should do more trading with the Soviet Union. The letter submitted by the workers yesterday also urged the government to find ways to relieve the troubles facing the textile and garment industries. It said about 100,000 workers could be laid off from the industries as a result of the U.S. embargo on Thai garment imports and the passage of some protectionist U.S. legislation.

Rear Adm Prakop said the government was considering the possibility of doing more trading with the Soviet Union and accepting the proposal to set up a Thai-Soviet friendship association. He said if Moscow was able to remove Thailand's doubts on its motives in providing scholarships directly to Thai students and support for the Vietnamese occupation of Kampuchea, there is a possibility of the proposed association being set up.

Rear Adm Prakop said President Ronald Reagan has already promised to veto the protectionist Jenkins Bill which would cut back Thailand's textile and garment exports to the U.S. by 60 percent.

STATEMENT ISSUED ON SUPREME SOVIET GROUP'S VISIT

BK300148 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 30 Oct 85 p 5

[Text] Thai and Soviet parliamentarians have agreed in principle to maintain working contacts with each other, the Foreign Ministry said yesterday. A ministry statement said the two sides agreed to further develop contacts and strengthen mutual cooperation within the framework of the Inter-Parliamentary Union.

The statement was issued after the Vice President of the Supreme Soviet Mr A. Salimov and his delegation held talks with House Speaker Uthai Phimchaichon. The Soviet Delegation also met Prime Minister Prem Tinsulanon. Various issues regarding Thai-Soviet relations were discussed, particularly the activities of both parliaments. Also discussed were global conflicts and efforts to find solutions to them. The statement said: "The two sides mutually agreed on the danger of the arms race and wished to see the reduction of nuclear armaments."

The Thai side said it hoped to see a positive outcome of next month's Soviet-U.S. summit in Geneva.

Both delegations said they were mindful of the problems confronting Southeast Asia, which not only caused tension in the region but also to the world at large. The statement said that questions of peace and stability in the region were raised but no details were given. Both sides said however, that existing differences in their views on "certain problems should not be an obstacle to the development of relations between the two parliaments, countries and people."

In conclusion, the statement said that both sides agreed to further develop contacts and strengthen mutual cooperation on the basis of "sincerity and equality."

USSR 'CAPITALISING' ON U.S. GARMENT EMBARGO

BK300224 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 30 Oct 85 p 1

[Text] The Soviet Union is capitalising on the United States' embargo on garment imports by offering to spend its income from freight on Thai cargos to buy Thai garments. Thai Garment Manufacturers Association president Iam Uawattahasakun said the offer was made to the Foreign Trade Department [FTD] by Thasos Shipping and Agency Co, which represents Soviet shipping interests.

The proposal had received support from FTD director-general Phatchara Itsarasena, and Mr Iam said the association welcomed it at a time when local exporters were desperate for foreign markets. Mr Iam said the association would encourage its members to exploit the offer to make gains in the Soviet market, which was seen to have great potential. Mr Iam said, without elaborating, that contracts had already been signed for local manufacturers to ship jeans to the Soviet Union.

The association and 140 exporters are to submit another letter to the U.S. Embassy calling for the embargo to be revoked, said Mr Iam, predicting a crisis if the barrier remained. He said that at least 20 medium- and small-scale manufacturers had shut down their plants and several thousand workers had been laid off as a consequence of the embargo. "If the situation is allowed to go on for a couple of weeks, more than 30,000 workers could be out of work and more factories closed," he said.

The Government will also be urged to negotiate with the U.S. ways to lift the embargo or to allow Thai products entry to the U.S. this year. Mr Iam said next year's quota could be cut by the extent of the excess shipped from Thailand in 1984, a measure Thai exporters have agreed to. Describing the embargo as a harsh measure on a friendly country, Mr Iam said the block was imposed without warning.

LAOS REFUSES TALKS; 'THIRD COUNTRY' BLAMED

BK300113 Bangkok THE NATION in English 30 Oct 85 p 3

[Text] Nong Khai -- The Laotian Government has turned down the Thai Government's invitation for talks to discuss mutual problems including trade issues and the organizing of the annual boat competition, a senior provincial official said yesterday.

Governor Sakda O-Phong had sent a letter of invitation for talks to the Laotian Government through the Thai Ambassador to Vientiane Somponx Faichampa last week. In the letter the governor called for talks with the Lao side.

He proposed that the discussions be held twice annually under the agreement set forth by the government of the two countries in the joint Thai-Lao committee. The talks, he added, will touch on the common problems along the Thai-Lao border, and the trade ties between Nong Khai and Vientiane.

The Thai Embassy reported on Monday that the Laotian provincial authorities had declined the invitation on grounds that the call was made too hastily. The annual boat competition on the Mekong River was also cancelled, he said. Sources said that the main reason behind the rejection by the Laotian side to discuss the mutual problems with Thailand was the interference by a third country.

Recently, the Thai side proposed that the bilateral talks should be held at the local level before the national level talks were convened. But the Laotian side insisted that any discussion on Thai-Lao problem must be carried out at the national level first.

Bilateral ties between Thailand and Laos have deteriorated over the years since the outbreak of the dispute over three villages of Ban Klang, Mai and Sawang which remain unresolved.

GENERAL REPORTS SRV DRY SEASON PLANS IN CAMBODIA

BK291115 Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in Thai 1030 GMT 28 Oct 85

[Text] Army Secretary Major General Narudon Detpradiyut reported on the situation along the Thai-Cambodian border. He said during the U.N. meeting in New York that many countries condemned the Vietnamese occupation of Cambodia and called on Vietnam to withdraw its troops from Cambodia without preconditions. But Vietnam is stubbornly continuing its military operations in Cambodia and frequently sends more troops and weapons into Cambodia.

In addition, Vietnam also held a meeting of division commanders in Siem Reap District, Siem Reap-Oddar Meanchey Province to plan their upcoming dry season offensive. Vietnam has moved forces from Siem Reap-Oddar Meanchey Province to the areas along the Thai-Cambodian border from Anlung Veng to Banteay Ampil, opposite Surin Province. It has sent a number of artillery pieces, tanks, and armoured cars to the areas of Svay Chek of Thmar Puok District in Battambang Province, opposite Ta Phraya District in Prachin Buri Province; Rattanamongdol District opposite Pong Nam Ron District of Chanthaburi Province; and Boi Rai District of Trat Province. There are indications that Vietnam is preparing to launch military operations against the CGDK forces and strongholds along the Thai-Cambodian border at the foot of Banphot Hill, north of Ban Sanlo Cha-Ngan of Ta Phraya District in Prachin Buri Province, and at areas opposite Surin and Buriram Provinces.

Regarding the Thai-Lao border situation, Maj Gen Narudon said that Laos has sent personnel and weapons to reinforce the areas bordering Thailand. Lao forces are recruiting girls from the age of 16 for military training and to serve in transportation units for Lao and Vietnamese troops. Furthermore, there have been attempts to infiltrate Thai territory to gather information about the movements and routes of Thai officials, particularly in the areas of Chiang Khong and Thoeng Districts in Chiang Mai Province, Chiang Kham District in Phayao Province, and Thung Chang District in Nan Province.

SRV, LAOS ISSUE STATEMENT ON UN CAMBODIA DEBATE

OW291623 Hanoi VNA in English 1550 GMT 29 Oct 85

[Text] Hanoi VNA Oct 29 -- In a joint statement released at the U.N. on Oct. 28, the Vietnamese and Lao delegations reaffirmed their stance as regards the "Kampuchean situation" debate held in the 40th Session of the U.N. General Assembly as follows:

1 -- The People's Republic of Kampuchea has many a time declared that any debate on the "Kampuchean issue" at the United Nations without the consent and participation of the People's Republic of Kampuchea, the sole and authentic representative of the Kampuchean people, is an interference in the internal affairs of Kampuchea -- an independent and sovereign country -- and a violation of the U.N. Charter and international law. Laos and Vietnam fully support this correct stance of the People's Republic of Kampuchea.

2 -- The presence at the debate of representatives of the genocidal regime in the guise of "Democratic Kampuchea" -- a regime which killed three millions of Kampuchean and condemned by the whole mankind, a regime whose rulers were sentenced to death by the Phnom Penh court -- is a challenge to the Kampuchean people and progressive public opinion in the world, and a big stain on the United Nations' prestige and role.

2 -- The erroneous resolutions on Kampuchea made so far by the United Nations have proved useless in finding a solution to the Kampuchean issue. They have been used by an expansionist force as an instrument to maintain the difference between the two groups of countries in Southeast Asia. At present, while the course of dialogue between the two groups of countries is embarking on a practical stage, the continued debate at the United Nations aimed at reaching an erroneous resolution on the Kampuchean issue as it did in the past six years is unquestionably an anachronistic and detrimental thing.

4 -- The Non-aligned Movement has adopted resolutions in support of an overall political solution to the southeast Asian issue, including the Kampuchean issue, through dialogue between the two groups of countries in the region. At the general debate of the 40th U.N. General Assembly many countries expressed constructive stance and wished the current dialogue between the A.S.E.A.N. and Indochinese countries success. It is clearly that to rehash the "Kampuchean issue" in an imitation manner at the United Nations so as to cause a strained atmosphere is a move originating from the design of some forces to sidetrack the public opinion from such great and imperative international questions as peace, the struggle against the arms race, for national independence and economic development. [paragraph as received]

5 -- For the above-said reasons, the delegations of the Lao People's Democratic Republic and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam declare that they will not participate in the debate on the "Kampuchean issue" and, together with other delegations of peace- and justice-loving countries, they will vote against all resolutions relating to Kampuchea put forth by the debate.

The Lao People's Democratic Republic and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam together with the People's Republic of Kampuchea will continue their efforts to seek a correct political solution to the Southeast Asian issue, the Kampuchean issue included, in conformity with the legitimate interests of all parties concerned. They welcome all efforts of A.S.E.A.N. countries to accelerate the dialogue on the basis of equality and without imposition of one's will on the other and without outside intervention. They also welcome all contributions of countries either inside or outside the region, and of the U.N. secretary general personally aimed at facilitating the dialogue in this spirit.

LE DUAN TOURS SOUTHERN INDUSTRIAL WORKS

BK270904 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 25 Oct 85

[Text] During his working tour to a number of southern provinces, Comrade Le Duan, general secretary of the party Central Committee, worked with Comrade Nguyen Van Linh, member of the Political Bureau and secretary of the Ho Chi Minh City Party Committee, and members of the city party committee; he also heard reports on Ho Chi Minh City's situation and tasks for the immediate future. The comrade general secretary paid special attention to the reorganization and expansion of industrial, small industry, and expansion of industrial, small industry, and handicrafts establishments, especially the development of the engineering sector's capacity regarding agricultural production, the processing industry, and communication and transportation.

Comrade Le Duan attended a seminar on engineering organized by the Ho Chi Minh City Party Committee and visited the Nha Be and (Icasa) Steel Rolling Mills, the Z-751 and Z-756 Engineering Works, United Irrigation Construction Enterprise No. 4, the United Electromechanical Enterprise, and some other industrial establishments. The comrade also called at the 2 September Pharmaceuticals Enterprise, the school supplies factory, and a number of other economic and cultural establishments.

AEROFLOT BRINGS TYPHOON RELIEF SUPPLIES

OW290809 Hanoi VNA in English 0726 GMT 29 Oct 85

[Excerpt] Hanoi VNA Oct 29 -- Aeroflot planes are bringing forth, medicines and clothes as relief from the Union of the Red Cross and Red Crescent of the U.S.S.R. to the victims of the recent destructive typhoons in Binh Tri Thien Province.

TYPHOON CECIL DAMAGE SURVEYED IN BINH TRI THIEN

HK241342 Hong Kong AFP in English 1155 GMT 24 Oct 85

[By Laurent Maillard]

[Excerpt] Hue, Vietnam, Oct 25 (AFP) -- The central province of Binh Tri Thien will take years to recover from the effects of Typhoon Cecil which left more than 700 people dead as it swept through here last week, a local official has said. A total of 702 people have been confirmed dead, 128 are still missing and 560,000 have been left homeless in the wake of the storm which caused damage worth more than a billion dong (65 million dollars), according to official estimates.

Officials have said that half the province's annual agricultural production has been lost after two typhoons hit the region this month, and electricity has been cut off in the region indefinitely. "It will take years for the province, one of Vietnam's poorest, to recover from this catastrophe and for conditions to return to normal," the president of the Binh Tri Thien People's Committee said yesterday. Worst hit in the province was the coastal region east of here where the sea, stirred up by winds blowing at more than 120 kilometers (75 miles) per hour, burst into the lagoon where hundreds of fishermen had taken refuge from the typhoon.

In the Thuan An District alone, more than 200 people drowned, including fishermen and people living in houses made of mud and straw which were swept away by the storm. Of the 35,000 inhabitants of the area, some 20,000 have been left homeless, according to local authorities. Hundreds of refugees have put together make-shift shelters using debris left by the sea as they await the delivery of reconstruction materials. The rebuilding of roads and bridges is also underway.

MARCOS ORDERS EXPANDED MEDIA ACCESS TO MILITARY

HK290814 Quezon City Maharlika Broadcasting System in English 0800 GMT 20 Oct 85

[Text] President Marcos today ordered the Armed Forces of the Philippines to reshape its information campaign into a more [words indistinct]. The move is designed to give more access to the media and the public on the progress of the anti-insurgency effort. The president said the military should also keep an eye on history with regard to the campaign against the NPA and other rebel groups. This is to enable historians writing on contemporary events to set the record straight. The chief executive said he will expect the military to be more meticulous in keeping the record of military operations on the (?company) level.

SUPPLY OPPORTUNITIES REVIEWED FOR U.S. BASES

HK290759 Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 28 Oct 85 p 21

[Text] The government is studying the possibility of directing multi-national companies doing business in the Philippines to supply the requirements of the two American bases here in accordance with the memorandum of agreement between the United States and the Philippines in 1983. Economic Planning Minister Vicente B. Valdepenas Jr. said that concerned government ministries are making the study. The Ministry of Trade and Industry (MTI) is the lead agency. Valdepenas cited encouraging opportunities for local manufacturers and suppliers who intend to do business with Clark Air Force Base and Subic Naval Base.

The absolute level of base purchases from local suppliers significantly improved since the signing of the memorandum of agreement in June 1983. However, the share of local purchases to total procurement of the bases continues to be small. In 1984, for instance, MTI reported that local procurement of food items by the bases amounted to about \$2.6 million, a small fraction of the total requirement of the bases. The list of commodities that can be supplied to the American facilities indicates that a number of these are easily available locally such as tomatoes, cucumber, onions, corn, bananas and pineapple. Filipino suppliers are also being eyed by the government in supplying such durable goods as vehicles, furniture, water pumps, tires, and cement as well as construction and related services, port handling, stevedoring and insurance.

RAMOS ON COLONEL'S DEFECTION TO OPPOSITION

HK291032 Hong Kong AFP in English 0936 GMT 29 Oct 85

[Text] Cagayan de Oro, Philippines, Oct 29 (AFP) -- The Philippines' acting Armed Forces chief today accused a ranking subordinate who defected to a U.S.-based opposition group of deserting to escape family problems. Lieutenant General Fidel Ramos said Colonel Alexander Bacalla was "misrepresenting himself" when he said in Washington Saturday that he was joining the Movement for a Free Philippines, which groups the expatriate Filipino opposition. "He is not a defector but a deserter," Gen Ramos told reporters in this southern capital during a tour through Mindanao Island.

Col Bacalla told a news conference organized by the opposition group that he was quitting his job as deputy chief of staff for civilian-military operations because "I could no longer wear with pride" the uniform of a soldier. He charged that President Ferdinand Marcos's military-backed government "Drips with the blood of Ninoy Aquino" -- opposition leader Benigno Aquino who was murdered at Manila Airport two years ago.

Armed Forces chief Fabian Ver, 24 other soldiers and a civilian went on trial this year for the murder of Mr Aquino, who was returning from self-exile in the United States. The verdict is expected in the next three months. Gen Ramos said Col Bacalla had gone absent without leave "because he was facing charges of abandoning his family," and that he had outstanding debts "which may add up to the reason behind his move." Meanwhile, a group of 40 armed men surrendered to Lt Gen Ramos here today. Spokesmen said they included communist rebels and government militiamen turned bandits.

15 Army Officers May Defect

HK280603 Dagupan City DZDL Radio in Tagalog 0445 GMT 28 Oct 85

[Text] Fifteen junior officers of the AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines] undergoing a study plan in the United States will possibly defect from the military to join the Movement for a Free Philippines [MFP] which is based in the U.S. The report surfaced after the recent defection of Colonel Alexander Bacalla, former assistant deputy chief of staff for civil-military operations at AFP headquarters. He is reported to have joined the MFP, which is run by former Senator Raul Manglapus. A junior officer with the rank of lieutenant told REUTER and UPI that Colonel Bacalla said 15 junior officers plan to leave military service to join the MFP. Meanwhile, military sources confirmed that 15 junior officers are presently in the U.S. attending a study plan approved by AFP authorities. The sources said the 15 officers may be part of the AFP reform movement, which aims to carry out reforms in the military services. Bacalla's defection has not been confirmed by military authorities, who say that he deserted the service because of family problems.

ENRILE ISSUES WARNING ON ESCALANTE PROBE

HK291122 Quezon City Maharlika Broadcasting System in English 1000 GMT 29 Oct 85

[Text] Defense Minister Juan Ponce Enrile has warned against name-dropping by some probers to unduly influence the proceedings of the Escalante fact-finding committee. Enrile also said that he will take appropriate action against those who [words indistinct] the investigation of the Escalante incident. He said he cannot condone any attempt to infringe upon the free, orderly, and untrammelled conduct of the investigation.

FINAL MEMORANDA RECEIVED IN AQUINO CASE

HK280531 Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 26 Oct 85 pp 1, 12

[By Rey G. Panaligan]

[Text] The Sandiganbayan received last night the final memorandums of the prosecution and the defense in the Aquino-Galman murder case. While the Tanodbayan (the public prosecutor) sought the conviction of all the 26 accused, the 21 Aviation Security Command (Avsecom) officers and men pleaded for their acquittal in the two murder cases. Earlier, the five other accused, led by Armed Forces Chief of Staff Gen Fabian C. Ver (on leave) who was charged as an accessory, appealed for their acquittal in separate memorandums.

Both the prosecution and the defense were given five days from Monday to file their reactions to their respective memorandums. Thereafter, the Sandiganbayan has 90 days to hand down its decision in the two murder cases. The Sandiganbayan decision is appealable direct to the Supreme Court.

In seeking the conviction of the 26 accused, the Tanodbayan alleged four grounds, namely:

1. Former Sen. Benigno S. Aquino Jr. was shot not by Rolando Galman but by ClC [Constable First-class] Rogelio Moreno (one of the escorts) with either a .45 or .38 caliber firearm while the former senator was at the last few steps of the bridge stairway.
2. There was a criminal conspiracy to kill Aquino and Galman, and that the latter was concocted as the assassin to justify the killing.
3. All the 26 accused are involved in the conspiracy.
4. Two crimes of murder were committed for the deaths of Aquino and Galman.

In their memorandum, 15 of the 21 Avsecom officers and men charged as principal sought their acquittal for insufficiency of evidence. The six other Avsecom soliders said they should be acquitted for lack of evidence. The Avsecom memorandum was filed by principal counsel Rodolfo U. Jimenez and collaborating lawyers Norberto Furagganan, Silverio Taloma, and Manuel F. Llena.

The Tandodbayan memorandum, on the other hand, was signed by Deputy Tanodbayan Manuel C. Herrera as head of the prosecution panel, and Pasay City Fiscal Ernesto Bernabe, and Special Prosecutors Leonardo Tamayo, Richardo A. Buenviaje. The fifth member of the panel, Prosecutor Rodolfo Serrano, failed to sign the memorandum which was filed before the office of Sandiganbayan Deputy Clerk of Court Minita Chico-Nazario at about 7 o'clock last night.

The Avsecom memorandum reiterated that Aquino was shot by Galman on the airport tarmac with a .357 magnum revolver. In reiterating the tarmac version, Avsecom lawyer Jimenez cited as evidence the testimonies of prosecution witnesses Ramon Balang, Wilson Llasos, and Mario Laher Jr.

Jimenez said that while two other witnesses, Olivia Reyes Antinano and Ramon Layoso, testified that they heard the shot while Aquino was still on the stairway, "their testimonies do not avail the posture that Aquino was indeed shot on the stairway because by their own admission, the former senator walked down normally and was even watching his steps while descending the stairs."

He also cited in his memorandum the eyewitness accounts of businessman Augusto Floresca and the two co-passengers of Aquino in the China Air Lines plane -- Ms. Pelagia Hilario and Lydia Morata. The two ladies testified that Aquino was shot on the tarmac by a man in blue shirt (Galman). Citing medico-legal testimonies, Jimenez said that the postmortem findings of witness Dr. Bienvenido Munor who autopsied Aquino in the presence of three other pathologists, including Dr. Benjamin Canlas, showed that the trajectory of the bullet that hit the former senator was upwards "which is inconsistent with some testimonies to the effect that Aquino was shot while descending the stairway."

Jimenez also told the court that the testimony of prosecution witness Rebecca M. Quijano was negated by the post-mortem findings as illustrated by another witness, Dr. Constantino Nunez, a consultant to several Metro Manila hospitals. According to Jimenez, Nunez testified that if the demonstration of Quijano on how Aquino was shot is to be believed, then the former senator would still be alive today.

In reiterating that Aquino was shot with a .357 magnum revolver, Jimenez cited the testimony of Alfred Johnson in Los Angeles, California. Jimenez said Johnson testified that "the postmortem findings on Aquino are compatible with the use of evidence .357 magnum revolver."

He also said the ballistic examination conducted on the copper jacket found in the scene of the shooting "shows that the bullet that hit Aquino was fired from the evidence .357 revolver." "The forensic chemical examination of the two evidence lead fragments preclude that they came from either a .45 or .38 caliber firearm," Jimenez said.

In the case of the six Avsecom soldiers charged as accessories, Jimenez said that "no evidence at all was adduced by the prosecution to prove their alleged accessorial acts." According to the Tanodbayan, it had adduced to the Sandiganbayan "all the evidence assembled and turned over by the Agrava board and the same were considered relevant and material to the prosecution's position that the 26 accused were criminally responsible for both the deaths of Aquino and Galman."

The prosecution presented a total of 69 witnesses, 60 of whom testified before the Agrava board. The defense, on the other hand, presented 39 witnesses who pointed to Galman as Aquino's assassin.

In insisting that Aquino was shot on the stairway, the prosecution cited the testimonies of five witnesses, namely: Quijano, Balang, Layoso, Laher, and journalist Sandra Burton. "Having proven by competent testimonial and real evidence that Aquino was shot while he was on the last few steps of the service stairs, the first question to be answered is -- who then shot Aquino?" the Tanodbayan said. It said that "Direct and circumstantial evidence point clearly to one of the escorts of Aquino as the assassin."

"As there was no other soldier dressed in Metrocom uniform immediately behind Aquino at that time except Moreno, the only logical conclusion is that Moreno was the trigger-man," the Tanodbayan said. "And this conclusion becomes more patent in the light of scientific findings that paraffin test on Moreno reveals the presence of gunpowder in both hands and that he fired a gun on Aug. 21, 1983," the Tanodbayan added.

The Tanodbayan also said: "The assassin could not have been Galman. This is so because there was no evidence presented either by the prosecution or the defense which shows that Galman was on the stairway behind Aquino at the time the first shot that felled the former senator was fired.

"On the contrary, testimonial evidence presented by both the prosecution and the defense shown that when the first shot was heard, Galman was on the tarmac, a few meters from behind the Avsecom van parked opposite the stairway." The Tanodbayan said there was conspiracy in the Aquino assassination as evidenced by a series of telegrams, telexes, and other forms of communication that showed the monitoring of the former senator's whereabouts abroad.

It said that all the 26 accused are involved in the conspiracy because they had prior knowledge that Aquino was coming via CAL [China Air Lines] plane and would dock at MIA's [Manila International Airport] Bay no. 8; that Aquino was accompanied by his brother-in-law and foreign media; that there were two alternative routes to be used in deplaning Aquino to the Avsecom van; that the service stairway would be used in deplaning Aquino; that there was a covert special arrangement for the assassin to be able to shoot Aquino; that they had powers and authority to prevent potential witnesses to the assassination and to control all activities at the airport complex before and during the assassination.

The Tanodbayan said the killing of Galman could not be separated from that of Aquino. "While, primarily, the common objective was to kill Aquino, the killing of Galman as a decoy assassin was a part of the plan to attain such common objective," the Tanodbayan said.

SUPREME COURT HALTS TATAD GRAFT PROCEEDINGS

HK251217 Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 24 Oct 85 pp 1, 8

[Text] The Supreme Court [SC] stopped yesterday the Sandiganbayan from trying former Information Minister Francisco S. Tatad for five graft charges filed against him by the Tanodbayan in connection with offenses which he allegedly committed while he was still a Cabinet minister. In an en banc resolution, the high court ruled that the Sandiganbayan cannot proceed with Tatad's trial "until further orders from this court." Gloria C. Paras, SC clerk of court, said the Tanodbayan and the Sandiganbayan were directed not to file a motion to dismiss the petition filed by Tatad's lawyers, the Angara, Concepcion, Regala and Cruz Law Offices. Instead, Paras said, the Tanodbayan and the graft court were ordered to answer the petition.

In his petition, Tatad said the Sandiganbayan and the Tanodbayan had to be stopped from proceeding with his case, which is supposed to start with his arraignment (reading of the charges against him) on Oct. 25, on the ground that the crimes charged had long prescribed and that the proceedings violated his constitutional rights and constituted grave abuse of discretion. The former information minister said the two bodies have shown an unusual eagerness to prosecute him regardless of the non-existence of a prima facie case against him.

Through lawyers Paul S. Roco and Lorna S. Kapunan, Tatad said the Sandiganbayan and the Tanodbayan committed "grave abuse of discretion as to deprive him of his right to due process."

-- When it refused to rule on whether he has not in fact been deprived of his right to speedy disposition of his case.

-- When the Tanodbayan was allowed to prosecute him for a crime that has already prescribed.

-- When the Tanodbayan was allowed to prosecute him only, when there are other persons who appear to be responsible for the crimes for which he was charged.

-- When the two bodies refused to recognize the effects of amnesty granted to him.

-- The records of the three of the five cases do not show that he is "probably guilty" of the crimes charged.

VALENCIA ON U.S. REPORTS OF MARCOS ILLNESS

HK300332 Quezon City Maharlika Broadcasting System in English 0100 GMT 30 Oct 85

["Analysis of the News" by Teodoro Valencia]

[Text] President Marcos, according to THE WASHINGTON POST, is seriously ill and probably has only one or two chances of surviving until the next Philippines elections planned for 1987. THE WASHINGTON POST quoted American intelligence sources. You know, when we visited the United States sometime in 1982, then Ex-Senator Aquino was with me for almost 24 hours and we were talking about a report similar to this one quoted by THE WASHINGTON POST, also coming from American intelligence sources. According to Ninoy then, the Americans said that President Marcos was in the United States to consult with doctors because of an ailment which probably would need surgery. Of course I told Ninoy then that it was incredible that a president would [words indistinct].

And so President Marcos returned to Manila, nothing much happened; he was able to finish his state visit without much fanfare but also without any incident that might indicate that he was ill.

Thereafter, in subsequent conversations with our friends in the United States who [words indistinct], we continued to receive reports from America that President Marcos was seriously ill and probably dying. I am sure that was what impelled Ex-Senator Aquino to rush home to reconcile with President Marcos or to [word indistinct] was his drive for future political action.

I was rather surprised that the same story has now resurfaced, and this time [words indistinct] in America have published more or less the same identical stories that President Marcos is suffering from some kind of a kidney ailment and that his chances of survival are quite dim. Well, we who are here in the Philippines who watch television every day, we know what's going on. We know for a fact that President Marcos is healthy now, that he never was this healthy in the past 2 years. And if this is the same Marcos that THE WASHINGTON POST reported to be dying, [words indistinct] there must be two sides to the same story.

I am rather amused that a story like this can come out of a major American newspaper because THE WASHINGTON POST and THE NEW YORK TIMES are newspapers reportedly or supposedly authoritative and would not print such a canard. But they did. The story out of Washington said that Mr Marcos survived three attacks before of the same disease and is hardly able to operate his government, quote unquote. [words indistinct] President Marcos is in full control of the government, he is running it and does everything that [words indistinct].

[passage indistinct] a diplomatic debacle. [words indistinct] a Khomeyni or perhaps the communist party [words indistinct] and run the government. THE NEW YORK TIMES, on the same day, a few days ago, quoted an unnamed official, who is certainly becoming familiar in the Philippines, has been (glorying) [word indistinct] and violence despite affirmations by the Manila government this week that it has the situation under control.

Then they talk about the visit here of Senator Laxalt and then THE TIMES continued yesterday with Mr Marcos's order for the deployment of additional troops, the training of elite police units, and the release of funds to finance the fighting against the insurgents. According to Mr Marcos, [words indistinct] strength of about 9,000, while the Pentagon sets this number at 16,500.

Richard Armitage, assistant secretary of defense for international security affairs, said in an interview with THE NEW YORK TIMES that it's fair to say President Marcos views the situation more optimistically than we do. Mr Armitage also said that if the current military situation continues as it is, a strategic stalemate will occur in the Philippines within 3 to 5 years, in which neither the army nor the communists [words indistinct] for a decisive victory over the other.

Well, [words indistinct] American newspapers for reporting something [words indistinct].

ENRILE CHIDES GROUP FOR WITHDRAWING FROM PROBE

HK240337 Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in English 2300 GMT 23 Oct 85

[Text] Defense Minister Juan Ponce Enrile yesterday [23 October] chided the Kilusang Mayo Uno [May 1st Movement] for withdrawing from the Escalante fact-finding committee, saying that such a move is more an attempt at political gimmickry. In a letter to lawyer Rolando Olalia, KMU chairman, Minister Enrile said that he finds the KMU's action utterly unreasonable in withdrawing from the committee.

The KMU, in a letter to the judge advocate general of the Armed Forces, said it is withdrawing its two representatives to the committee upon the behest of the KMU National Executive Committee. Enrile said that his development is highly unfortunate, recalling that Olalia himself addressed a formal letter to the Defense Ministry. Meanwhile, the secretariat members named by the committee left yesterday morning on a commercial flight for Bacolod City. The main committee members will follow on Saturday to conduct an immediate investigation and hearings on the Escalante incident. The committee has been given until November 17 to submit its final report and recommendations.

MARCOS ORDERS HALT IN DAVAO MINING ACTIVITIES

HK300356 Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in English 2300 GMT 29 Oct 85

[Text] President Marcos yesterday [29 October] ordered a halt in all mining activities in Davao Del Norte after two landslides buried alive more than 200 people. The order was issued to regional military commander Brigadier General Jaime Echeverria. The military was directed to stop all miners from digging tunnels and erecting shanties that could hamper rescue efforts and further endanger lives. The president also directed mining authorities to enforce a ban on further activity in the gold rush sites at Mount Diwata in Monkayo and in (diyap), both in Davao Del Norte. Thousands of people have been attracted to the two areas since gold was discovered there in 1983. The president also directed the military to take action to protect miners who were reportedly being harassed by NPA rebels who are forcibly collecting taxes from them. Meanwhile rescue and recovery operations for the more than 100 missing miners and their families were hampered by heavy rains. Two military helicopters that were sent to the area last Monday failed to land due to foul weather. Ten bodies were already recovered and many more are still missing. Massive deaths occurred in the area due to landslides and cave ins.

MARCOS APPROVES P5 MILLION FOR TYPHOON VICTIMS

HK290436 Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in English 2300 GMT 28 Oct 85

[Text] President Marcos yesterday [28 October] ordered the release of 5 million pesos for the relief and rehabilitation of victims of typhoon Saling in central Luzon which hit the country recently. The amount will be used mainly for housing materials to repair residences and public buildings damaged by the typhoon. The amount was released in response to urgent request for help from typhoon victims in central Luzon and will be administered by General Gaudencio Tobias, general manager of the National Housing Authority.

MILITARY RAIDS NPA HIDEOUT IN COTABATO CITY

HK290434 Quezon City Maharlika Broadcasting System in English 0400 GMT 29 Oct 85

[Text] Two rebels were killed by a group of military men who raided an NPA hideout in Madrid, Cotabato City, over the weekend. Captain Sergio Pateros said the slain rebels could not be identified. Pateros said that they were informed of the presence of the NPA and the soldiers immediately raided the NPA hideout. No casualty was reported on the government side.

100 NPA GUERRILLAS OVERRUN, RANSACK NORTHERN TOWN

HK291420 Hong Kong AFP in English 1334 GMT 29 Oct 85

[Text] Manila, Oct 29 (AFP) — More than 100 leftist guerrillas overran a mountain town in the northern Philippines, holding it for 10 hours and razing the town hall, the PHILIPPINE NEWS AGENCY (PNA) said today.

One guerrilla was killed and two wounded, while three soldiers and four policemen were missing after the New People's Army (NPA) raid Sunday on the mountain town of Balbalan, 310 kilometers (186 miles) north of here in Kalinga-Apayao Province, PNA said quoting the local military chief. The some 120 rebels who attacked the town at dawn were believed to have abducted the missing men, PNA said.

The guerrillas surrounded the town center and held it for 10 hours, searching homes for firearms and herding residents inside a clinic, PNA said. They then ransacked the town hall of office equipment before setting it alight. The rebels also took over a military detachment in the area, and disarmed four soldiers defending the town hall after their colleagues ran out of bullets and withdrew, PNA added. The Balbalan town hall was the fourth to be burned by rebels in the province this year, PNA said. The NPA is the estimated 12,000-strong armed wing of the banned Communist Party of the Philippines. Military spokesmen here could not immediately confirm the state-run agency's report.

Military Tracks Raiders

HK300236 Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in English 2300 GMT 29 Oct 85

[Text] Government troopers are trying to track down a band of some 120 NPA rebels who attacked and set fire to the Balbalan municipal hall in Kalinga-Apayao last Sunday. The rebels seized the town hall after they overran a PC [Philippine Constabulary], police, and Civilian Home Defense Force [CHDF] detachment of eight men. Provincial commander Colonel Gregorio (Tetuta) said the NPA attacked the town hall at 3 am. During a 3-hour fire-fight, one rebel was killed and two others were wounded but they were dragged away by their comrades. Three PC soldiers and four policemen were reported missing. One policeman, identified as Patrolman Simeon Apawin, was wounded in the head during the scuffle with one of the NPA raiders.

7 REPORTED KILLED IN GOVERNMENT, REBEL CLASHES

HK291118 Quezon City Maharlika Broadcasting System in English 1000 GMT 29 Oct 85

[Text] Seven persons, including three members of the Civilian Home Defense Force [CHDF], were killed in separate encounters between government troopers and subversive terrorists. The encounters took place in Iloilo and Capiz. Added details from Jun Francisco: [Begin recording] Reporting to acting Armed Forces Chief of Staff Lieutenant General Fidel Ramos, [words indistinct], Brigadier General Isidoro de Guzman identified the slain CHDF men as Salvador (Estarte), Vicente (Embalsado), and Romeo (Escandor). They were ambushed [words indistinct] Iloilo. The three other fatalities [words indistinct] raided the (Monarch) Construction and Development Corporation of [words indistinct]. The pursuit operation launched against the dissidents resulted in the killing of three of the (?32) armed terrorists led by (Milo Prieto), alias Ka Dfiego. There was no reported casualty on the government side. [end recording]

WORLD BANK-FINANCED CEBU PORT FACILITIES OPEN

HK251117 Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in Tagalog 1000 GMT 25 Oct 85

[Text] The Philippine Port Authority [PPA] is inviting local and foreign shipping lines to make use of the new Cebu international port facilities. PPA officer in charge Maximo Dumlaog has announced that a promotional campaign is underway to inform shippers of this new facility. The new Cebu port is the first of four being built in the country as part of a World Bank project. The Cebu port is strategically located and will be attractive for ocean liners and cargo vessels plying to and from Indonesia, Brunei, Singapore, Malaysia, and other Southeast Asian routes.

1 PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE TO REPRESENT OPPOSITION

HK250749 Hong Kong AFP in English 0718 GMT 25 Oct 85

[Text] Manila, Oct 25 (AFP) -- The Philippines' main opposition parties have forged a pact to field only one candidate in a snap or regular presidential election, and common slates in the 1986 local government polls, it was announced today. Spokesmen of the National Unification Conference (NUC) said the agreement was reached at an emergency meeting yesterday among party representatives and figures spearheading the efforts to end the divisions in opposition ranks.

In connection with the agreement, the parties agreed to launch local alliance assemblies to bring unification down to the provincial, city and municipal levels, the spokesmen said.

The local government polls are set for May 1986 and the presidential election for mid-1987, when President Ferdinand Marcos' current six-year term ends. There is present speculation that a snap presidential poll might be held before the regularly scheduled election.

The signatories to yesterday's agreement represent main opposition parties, the United Nationalist Democratic Organization (UNIDO), the Liberal Party and the PDP-LASAN [Philippino Democratic Party-Lakas ng Bayan], as well as several smaller groups.

NUC chairwoman M.P. Cecilio Munoz Palma was quoted by the BUSINESS DAY newspaper today as saying: "We want to show Marcos that we have more than enough people to take over government." She was reacting to the president's statement in a U.S. television interview last week that he wanted to step down after 20 years in power but that there was no one who could take over while the country was in crisis. Mrs Palma, who was not available for comment today, was also quoted by the Malaya newspaper as saying: "We fully realize that we cannot bring about change if we are not united."

UNIDO chief Salvador Laurel is considered the front-runner in the race to become the opposition's bet against Mr Marcos or any other candidate from the ruling KBL party. He is the first and only aspirant to be formally nominated by his party to the pool from which the NUC will select the candidate in a convention.

Corazon Aquino, widow of the murdered political leader, Benigno Aquino, is also considered a probable candidate but has disavowed any ambitions to run. Reacting to the formation of a "Cory Aquino for president movement," she said she would consider running only if there was a snap election and if the group comes up with the one million signatures of support it pledged to get.

AGRICULTURAL MINISTRY ANNOUNCES 5-YEAR PLAN

HK280933 Manila TIMES JOURNAL in English 27 Oct 85 p 8

[By Corie Salientes]

[Text] The Ministry of Agriculture and Food (MAF) will embark on an P8.4 billion five year development plan for 1987 to 1991. The plan is not simply aimed at increasing agricultural productivity but also in increasing agriculture's contribution in improving the country's balance of payments through export expansion and import substitution while attaining self-sufficiency in all basic food items.

If the five year development plan pushes through, the MAF assures the country of intensified and expanded agricultural production that would lead to self-sufficiency in all staples and basic food items such as rice, corn, pork, poultry, beef, fish, vegetables, legumes and feed ingredients; expansion of agri-based exports replacement of imported food and non-food agricultural products, and others.

Under the plan, the MAF and other agriculture-related agencies such as the National Food Authority will intensify rice, corn, vegetable and fruits production through the promotion of multicropping scheme, provision of inexpensive technology and better post-harvest and marketing facilities. On-going rice and corn productions programs will be pursued more vigorously. Like wise, the MAF will pursue the planting of inexpensive sources of plant protein. It will also pursue rootcrop production on an "expanded" scale as feed ingredient substitute and food. Efforts will also be exerted to push local fruits for exportation.

The poultry and livestock commercialization program will cost the government some P2 billion in five years. This program accounts for the bulk of the 5 year plan budget estimate placed at an average of P1.7 billion yearly. The major thrust on livestock industry include the production of cattle, carabao, goat, sheep and dairy for both the domestic and export markets.

For fisheries, intensification of aquaculture will be given first priority in view of the rising cost of commercial fishing operations and the depletion of some municipal fishing grounds. The MAF has readied lending programs for both the aquaculture development program and for the Biyayang Dagat where thousands of marginal fishermen are involved.

ADVANCE SOUGHT ON ECONOMIC SUPPORT FUND

HK290739 Manila BUSINESS DAY in English 28 Oct 85 p 3

[Text] The Philippines has sent a memorandum to the United States requesting the advanced availment of \$55 million from the Economic Support Fund (ESF) under the RP [Republic of the Philippines]-U.S. Military Bases Agreement. The requested amount represents half of the \$110-million ESF that will be made available to the Philippines starting next year. Government sources said the request for an advanced drawdown on the ESF was made to enable the government to provide the counterpart funding required for certain foreign assisted projects. Since the 1986 fiscal year for the ESF starts in October and ends in September, the request was made this month to allow the U.S. to release the fund. The sources said the government has till the end of the year to make up for a revenue shortfall of some P4.2 billion. The government has been trying to look for ways to increase revenues from tax and non-tax sources.

The advanced availment of the ESF is a form of a non-tax revenue measure. The problem regarding the government's budget deficit was highlighted when the International Monetary Fund (IMF) decided to delay the drawdown on the third tranche of its standby credit earmarked for the Philippines. The Philippines requested the IMF to approve a higher budget deficit ceiling equivalent to 1.4 percent of the gross national product (GNP) or about P9 billion for this year compared to the previous level of P6.2 billion or about 0.9 percent of GNP. Even if the IMF grants the higher deficit ceiling, the government has still to cover for shortfalls in revenue estimated at about P6 billion if present collections do not improve. The government is also working on a revised tax scheme which will try to address this deficit problem. The government however is in a dilemma because while it needs additional revenues, it could not afford to raise taxes for fear this would further weaken an already depressed economy.

Many of the major foreign-assisted projects have been delayed because of the inability of the government to provide counterpart financing, a requirement imposed by many lending countries that extend official development assistance (ODA). In view of this, a large percentage of the country's available ODA has remained unutilized. The ESF drawing, sources said, will be applied to some of the more urgent and critical foreign-assisted development projects scheduled for next year.

ADMINISTRATOR SAYS U.S. SHOULD RENEW SUGAR QUOTA

HK290755 Manila BUSINESS DAY in English 28 Oct 85 p 9

[Text] The U.S. is morally obliged to restore the Philippines's basic sugar quota of 980,000 tons originally provided for in the Laurel-Langley agreement that expired in 1974, according to Ramon Nolan, former chairman of the Philippine Sugar Institute (now Commission) and sugar quota administrator. He made the statement in a speech before members of the Rotary, Lions, Jaycees, Toast Masters Club, Knights of Columbus and other civic and charitable organizations affiliated with the Partners Club of Talisay City.

The restoration of the country's sugar quota "is the moral obligation of the United States, not only as the Philippines friend and ally, but also as the most stable, faithful and reliable supplier of American needs since 1796 when the first shipment of Philippine sugar landed in Salem, Massachusetts," he said. Nolan said these shipments reached as much as 1,250,000 tons before the 980,000-ton quota was set by the Laurel-Langley agreement.

When the United States broke diplomatic relations with Cuba in 1959, Nolan said, the Philippines was called upon to shoulder the heaviest burden of supplying America's sugar needs, resulting in the increase of its sugar quota to 1,600,000 tons up to 1974. He explained that "America's call for increased Philippine sugar shipments made the country launch and pursue a massive increased sugar production program that involved additional investments of P12 billion and the contraction of over \$500 million in foreign loans in 1966.

MONEY SUPPLY DECLINES, CONFORMS WITH IMF

HK260613 Manila BUSINESS DAY in English 25 Oct 85 p 12

["Economic Indicator" column: "Money Supply Drops 14 Percent"]

[Text] Money supply, which consists of currency in circulation and peso demand deposits, totaled P28,462 million as of August, down 14.38 percent from the yearago total of P33,242 million, latest Central Bank [CB] statistics indicated. The lower money supply was the result of government efforts to reduce the reserve money level to conform with an International Monetary Fund (IMF) criterion. Money supply is the amount of money in the economy. Currency in circulation is determined by deducting from the currency issue of the CB cash held in the vaults of the Treasury and of deposit money banks. The amount of peso deposits subject to checks, on the other hand, is derived by subtracting from the total checking deposit liabilities, deposits of the national government and the checks and other cash items held by commercial banks, excluding managers' and cashiers' checks.

By composition, currency in circulation accounted for the bulk of the total money supply. These amounted to P18,679 million or 65.63 percent of the total. This marked a 12.24 percent reduction over the yearago total of P21,285 million.

Peso deposits subject to checks dropped 18.17 percent to P9,783 million in August from P11,956 million in the same month last year.

Money Supply
January 1983 to August 1985
(in million pesos)

Period	1985	1984	1983
January	30,935	30,673	22,246
February	29,493	28,997	22,012
March	29,569	30,176	22,165
April	29,859	31,727	22,412
May	29,098	31,470	22,537
June	29,067	31,500	23,040
July	28,393	34,950	22,690
August	28,462	33,242	23,061
September		31,528	23,503
October		30,722	26,432
November		30,797	28,306
December		33,633	32,442

Sources: Central Bank

BUSINESSMEN CONTEND IMF DEMANDS UNREASONABLE

HK290747 Manila BUSINESS DAY in English 28 Oct 85 p 2

[By Daniel C. Yu]

[Text] A "junk IMF" move appears to be gaining ground as businessmen, after over two years of abiding by the austere program imposed by the International Monetary Fund, appear ready now to challenge the multi-lateral credit institution's conditionalities which many believe have become unreasonable. The latest condition, the implementation of the import liberalization plan widely opposed in the business community, has become the rallying point of many businessmen who are asking the government to defy the IMF.

"Let us not dig our grave by blindly following the demands of the IMF. Afterall, we can decide for ourselves. Let us therefore decide for ourselves what we think is best," Felix K. Maramba, president of the Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PCCI), said. On the import liberalization plan, Maramba said the position of Philippine business has consistently been made clear: Businessmen do not object to the concept per se but question the timing of its imposition.

Maramba told BUSINESS DAY that the business environment in the country today is such that local companies are not properly tooled up through no fault of their own to compete against an onslaught of imported goods. It is a known fact that today the trend in international trade is actually veering away from free trade toward protectionism. Even the mighty industrial countries, the United States included, is experiencing this," he pointed out.

Maramba's sentiments are shared by many businessmen particularly those in the 13 industry sectors set to be affected by the import liberalization program scheduled to be implemented by the end of this year. These industries, in the past several weeks, have been busy preparing position papers justifying the need for the postponement of the deregulation plan until such time that local firms shall have recovered from the debilitating effects of the economic crisis that started in 1983. Maramba underscored the fact that a businessman in the Philippines has to contend not only with bureaucratic red tape and labor problems but also with the deteriorating peace and order situation in some areas. "These and other problems remain unattended and yet we expect our domestic industries to be efficient and productive," he added.

Trade and Industry Deputy Minister Edgardo L. Tordesillas, during a forum on import liberalization last Friday, could only assure the estimated 200 businessmen in attendance that the government "is putting up necessary safeguards." Many noted that the government, because of IMF pressure, has all but made import liberalization "a non-negotiable item" that businessmen have to swallow "hook, line and sinker."

PEASANT LEADER PREDICT'S RICE PRICE CRISIS

HK241419 Quezon City VERITAS In English 20 Oct 85 p 12

[Text] Another crisis looms ahead for the nation two to three months from now. The price of rice, the main staple of 48 million Filipinos, will increase by P9 to P10 from its current price of an optimum of P8.20 per kilo. This was predicted recently by Jimmy Tadeo, 47-year-old president of the 500,000-strong Kilusang Magbubukid Ng Philipinas [Peasants' Movement of the Philippines] (KMP). What makes Tadeo's forecast sound is that even officials of the government National Food Authority (NFA) share his views. They have an even gloomier prediction though: The price of rice will increase by P10 to P14 by December on January the following year.

In a dialogue between KMP and leaders of the Kilusang Mayo Uno (KMU) [1 May Movement, a labor federation] early last week, Tadeo said that as soon as imported rice (which now constitutes 70 percent of NFA's rice stocks) runs out of supply, the price of rice will zoom to higher levels. With imported rice out of the domestic market, rice sold by traders of middlemen (who buy close to 90 percent of the total palay harvest) will flood the market at an even higher price. This is even more likely since by that time, the country's farmers, who would then have consumed their own stock (which usually lasts for two to three months) will start buying rice from the market, which means an increase in the demand for rice. Moreover, the rice short fall amounting to 600,000 metric tons will certainly trigger an increase in the price of rice. Up to this writing the NFA has been flooding the local market with rice imported from the United States, China and Thailand amounting to some 370,000 metric tons. Imported rice is being sold at prices lower than the prevailing price of locally-produced rice which is from P6 to P8 per kilo. With imported rice produced at lower costs, the NFA is expected to reap P1.3 billion of gross profits.

Speculations on the rice price increase have also been set off by the rice price deregulation adopted by the Marcos government two weeks ago. According to the Ministry of Agriculture and Food (MAF), price deregulation which leads to an increase in the prices of rice would increase the income of farmers. This in turn will encourage farmers to produce more, agriculture officials claimed. Even before the price lifting, however, the price ceiling of rice of P5.95 to P6.20 was not being enforced, even reaching P8.20 last September.

The price of rice had also been lifted amid reports of an abundant supply as a result of the flooding of imported rice in the local market. With this abundance, NFA reported last week, rice prices have started to decline to only P6.10 to P6.40 per kilo. The KMP immediately belied the NFA claim, however, saying that the price of rice has continued to soar. The national farmers' organization said that a kilo of rice is being sold throughout the country from P6.50 to P7.50. In a survey in Metro Manila and neighboring provinces, the Forum for Rural Concerns, a non-governmental survey office, found out that retailers sell the staple at P7.50 to P8.50 a kilo.

Meanwhile, the flooding of imported rice in the local market has coincided with the start of the rice harvest season. Reports indicate that the price of palay has further dropped to P2 up to P2.80 per kilo, which is way below the government support price of P3.50 per kilo. Normally, it is during this time that farmers are forced to sell to rice treaders (many of whom are landowners themselves) at low price. They are forced to sell for want of cash or in order to repay production expenses borrowed from landowners. In the Visayas, palay is being sold lower than P2 per kilo.

The reported drop in the price of palay apparently belies the NFA claim that price deregulation or the increase in the price of rice is sound as it is anchored on the increase in the support price of palay. An independent research agency on peasant problems, the Philippine Peasant Institute (PPI), revealed recently that the increase in rice prices does not correspond to actual increases in the farmgate price of palay. For instance, in 1979, while palay support price was P1.20 per kilo, the price of rice was P2.10 per kilo actual price of rice. Even if the NFA support price is fully enforced, PPI said, it is insignificant as the actual bulk of its palay procurement is only about eight per cent of total palay production. Thus, the farmers have no option other than to sell their produce to traders who manipulate prices at their will.

With the expected increase in the price of rice in either December or January, the country's farmers will certainly face more economic difficulties. KMP leaders debunk the government claim that they will benefit from its price deregulation policy. Such policy, they claim, favors more commercial rice traders who always have the final say in the purchase and sale of rice. After selling their palay at low price, farmers are later compelled to buy their own at a higher price. Far from increasing their income, this would cause their incomes to shrink further or to sink deeper to indebtedness.

To forestall the rice crisis, organized farmers, particularly those under the KMP, are demanding a rollback in the price of palay. They also want that the price of palay be stabilized instead of being tied to the price of rice. Aside from these, organized farmers want that the prices of fertilizer and pesticide, largely imported from abroad, be lowered and that the rates of interest of government loans to farmers be reduced.

High costs of production, according to KMP head Tadeo, is a major cause for the lower rice yield in recent years which has led to the rice shortage and to importation. Unless costs of production are significantly lowered, the supply of domestic rice will surely decline and the government will once again resort to importation. And with the country's precarious foreign exchange, rice importation will drain the economy of precious dollars.

The farmers' demands are included in the 7-point demand of a KMP petition sent to MAF Minister Salvador Escudero III and Prime Minister Cesar Virata, chairman of the National Economic Recovery Council. The petition is part of KMP's month-long Farmers' Campaign against Poverty which will climax with a People's March from Central Luzon to Manila on October 20-21. The march, to be joined by organized workers, students and other sectors, will mark the 13th anniversary of what militant farmers call the "hoax land reform program" of the Marcos government.

TIMES JOURNAL ON NEW PUBLIC ASSEMBLY LAW

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[Editorial: "Public Assembly Law Isn't Final Word"]

[Text] Close on the heels of his signing of the Public Assembly Act of 1985, the President warned that the government is taking a tougher stance against those who will provoke inviolence in mass demonstrations. He did not specify what move the government will make but it was obvious that he meant business because he saw that the guideline set forth in the new law might not be enough to convince troublemakers that they should toe the line if they want to be heard. The law hammered out in the Batasan jointly by KBL and opposition lawmakers is simply a reflection of the nation's concern over the violent direction the demonstrations were taking. In limiting the areas where demonstrations may be held, the law gives due respect to the rights of majority to go about its daily pursuits without being threatened by the chaos that breaks out on the streets during demonstrations. The law recognizes that they have as much right to unhampered passage as those who try to impose their will on the majority.

The right to seek redress of grievances is also recognized by the law when it compels mayors to grant permits for demonstrations for as long as they are certain that these do not pose a threat to public order, safety, convenience and morals. In case of rejection, the majors are to explain their reasons in writing and do this within 24 hours. Should the mayor's decision be questioned in the courts, the latter are enjoined to rule on the petition as swiftly. Should the demonstrators persist, the gathering is to be dispersed peacefully by the police. The dispersal has not been easy because of the mutual distrust that often dominates any confrontation between law enforcers and demonstrators. The former often insist on seeing infiltrators within the ranks of every demonstration while the latter argue that this assiduousness is dictated mainly by the desire to stifle dissent and nothing else. Lately these confrontations have been ending peacefully, with the police eventually giving demonstrations more than enough leeway and the demonstrators indirectly expressing their gratitude for this by breaking up quietly. Last Monday's incident could in fact be considered a rare exception as demonstrations in the city go.

Orders have been given to investigate the cause of this fatal encounter but under the present atmosphere it is not likely that this inquiry would be fruitful. It might be better perhaps to start all over again, as it were, and allow the new public assembly act to guide future decisions on demonstrations. The police can be sure that the new law will be tested to the limit and the tendency to transgress will always be there. But having the rules down in black and white, instead of it being an amorphous bunch of what both sides consider to be their right under the circumstance, should make it easier for them now to know where they stand. What should be borne in mind is that the present law need not be last word; it could be improved to suit conditions and tempers that may have been overlooked during its framing. It would be a good start however to consider the law as the work of those whose only wish is to make a clearer definition of what we all understand to be our rights.

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